THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Spring 2020 Volume 28, Number 1

**What symbols of American unity did this jeton inspire? See Page 20.**

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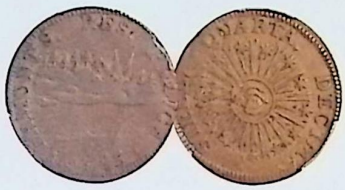
1785 RR-1, Bressett 26-Z, W-2250. Rarity-5. IMMUNE COLUMBIA. EF-40 (PCGS).

1785 Landscape. RR-2, Bressett 1-A, W-2005. Rarity-3. VERMONTS. AU-53 (PCGS).



1785 Landscape. RR-3, Bressett 2-B, W-2010. Rarity-5. VERMONTS. EF-40 (PCGS).

1785 Landscape. RR-4, Bressett 3-C, W-2015. Rarity-4. VERMONTIS. EF-45 (PCGS).

1786 Landscape. RR-7, Bressett 5-E, W-2025. Rarity-3. VERMONTENSIUM. AU-53 (PCGS).

1786 RR-9, Bressett 7-F, W-2040. Rarity-3. Baby Head. AU-53 (PCGS).

1786 RR-11, Bressett 9-H, W-2050. Rarity-4. Bust Left. VF-30 (PCGS).

1787 RR-15, Bressett 9-I, W-2060. Rarity-6. Bust Left. VF-20 (PCGS).

1788 RR-26, Bressett 16-T, W-2190. Rarity-6. Bust Right. VF-20 (PCGS).

1788 RR-30, Bressett 23-S, W-2225. Rarity-6-. Bust Right, Backward C in AUCTORI. VG-10 (PCGS).

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# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(Jack Howes)

In my last column, I asked - what next? OK, this I did not expect at all. Probably when you read this you will all, like myself, be in a quarantine/lockdown. Hopefully you are all fine. Personally (late March) I don't know a single person who has contracted this virus. But because of limited testing, who knows I may have already had it and not known!

One thing you all can do is work with your collection. So far the mail is still being delivered so you can buy more stuff! And of course the Internet holds vast unexplored resources to study, e.g., if you have not used the Newman Portal, now is the time to poke around into the huge amount of material that has been digitized. Back issues of the *C4 Newsletter* are there (three years prior to the current year.) All of the *Colonial Newsletter*: https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/publisherdetail/511327. Eric Newman's (EPN) correspondence over 50 years, which is fascinating. Link to EPN & John J. Ford correspondence: https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/archivedetail/513417. Link to EPN & Dick Picker correspondence: https://nnp.wustl.edu/library/archivedetail/520539. One of my "goto" sites when searching for coins is the Sixbid archive search. It is kind of hard to find but this link should get you there: https://www.sixbid-coin-archive.com/#/en/search?sort=price_desc.

Another thing that you should do is write up something for the Newsletter. **Our editor (Will Nipper) is actively looking for contributions.** The pipeline is in need of refilling. This can be anything from very short to longer articles, though the Newsletter tends toward the lighter side. Think about what you have seen or looked at recently in your collection. Or some question you don't have the answer to. Use this time to make a contribution! ***Please, Please, Please.***

The third thing you can do is get something from the C4 Library. This a really great resource for the club. Take advantage of it. Write a book report or get something for a research project. There is time. Leo is waiting and ready to fill orders. Some suggestions (from Leo):

- Bowers, Q. David, *The History of United States Coinage As Illustrated by the Garrett Collection,* Bowers & Ruddy, Los Angeles CA, 1979

- Chernow, Ron, *Alexander Hamilton,* The Penguin Press, New York NY 2004

- Craig, Sir John, *Newton At The Mint*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge MA, 1946, (Copy of the original work) (127 pages)

- Jordan, Louis, *John Hull the Mint and the Economics of Massachusetts Coinage*, C4 Publications, Lebanon NH, 2002

- Kleeberg, John M., *Numismatic Finds of the America – An Inventory of American Coin Hoards Shipwrecks Single Finds and Finds in Excavations,* The American Numismatic Society, New York NY, 2009

- Moore, Frank, *Diary of the American Revolution,* Charles Scribner, London UK, 1860

- Mossman, Philip L., *Money of the American Colonies and Confederation*, The American Numismatic Society, New York NY, 1993

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- Mumford, William R., *Barter Bits Bills and Tobacco – The Story of Money in Early Maryland,* The Maryland State Archives and The Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis MD, 2002

- Newman, Eric P. & Richard G. Doty, *Studies on Money in Early America,* The American Numismatic Society, New York NY, 1976

- Scott, Kenneth, *Counterfeiting in Colonial America,* Oxford University Press, New York NY, 1957

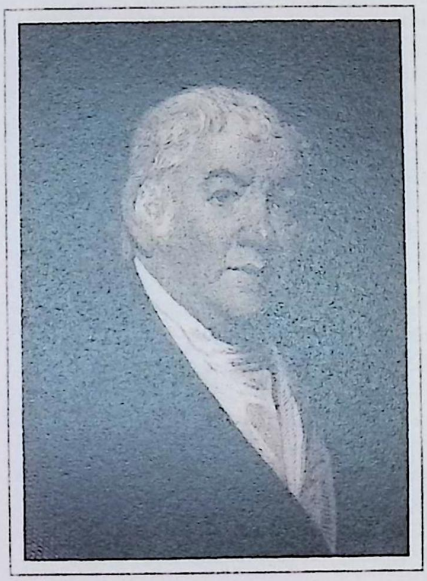
- Thompson, Samuel, *An Essay On Coining By Samuel Thompson – Die Sinker 1793,* Copy of Original Handwritten Manuscript and August 2002 Transcription (36 pages)


One of my favorites and Leo's on this list is the biography of Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow -- spellbinding look at the person and the times.

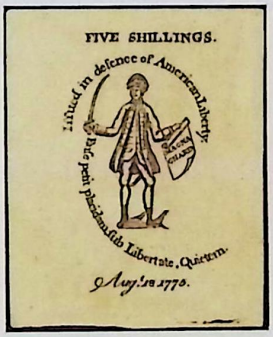
I hope to see many of you at the November C4 convention and at this time there are no plans to postpone or cancel but check the website and this column next quarter for updates.

Congratulations are in order for C4 Member and Hertiage Senior Numismatist, **Mark Borckardt**, who was named by the American Numismatic Association (ANA) as its **2020 Numismatist of the Year**! We'll have more details in the next newsletter.

I always like to have a coin to show and talk a little about but this time I have something a little different to offer. I found this engraving of Paul Revere with an example of one of his paper money notes known as the Sword in Hand. The engraving is super well done probably from an oil painting but I have not researched the source. The book was *The Story of the American Bank Note Company* by William H. Griffiths, 1959, American Bank Note Company, New York. A beautiful book with actual steel plate intaglio engravings tipped in.



PAUL REVERE
Father of America's security engraving industry




SWORD HAND MONEY
Engraved and printed by Paul Revere

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR [AND C4 MEMBERS]

✉ ***Re: Hibernia Metal Detecting Finds***

Dear Editor,

I read Mark Vitunic's article on the discovery of 4 Woods Hibernia pieces in a single location, 2 of which were stacked on each other. It reminded me of an old 1860s farmhouse I once metal detected around. There were 2 Indian cents, a silver Roosevelt dime, and a few wheat cents, a nice set of finds but not extraordinary. The remarkable thing was an additional 130 coins dated from the 1980s to 2001. This is an exceptional number for any house location, but the distribution was revealing. All of the modern coins were in the back or side yards, not in front near the highway. In addition to single finds, there were several stacked groups, with each group having multiple coins piled on top of each other. One group was a nicely stacked quarter, nickel, 5 pennies, and a dime, largest to smallest, bottom to top, as if it were on a counter top. Clearly these were intentional burials, and the amounts involved were children's money. I believe that the children of the house were playing Buried Treasure or simply hiding their money from each other so it was not taken and spent. Regarding Mark's friend, I suspect that 4 small copper coins like Woods Hibernia pieces, in a small area, with 2 of them nicely stacked, are likely to be a 1700s version of what I came across. A child or youth hid his stash, but money was scarcer in those days, and for whatever reason he never returned to retrieve it. An interesting little historical research project could follow this. A search of old land records at the town hall would reveal who owned the property in the 1720s to the 1740s. A search of town vital statistics at the town hall, or perhaps on genealogy.com, would reveal if a child of the owner perhaps died at the age of 6 to 16 in that time frame (not unlikely in those days). Based on this, it might be possible to determine a potential person who buried those coins.

- Paul Schultz

*[Editor's note: As the quarter began, it appeared that this newsletter might be a very thin one. It ended with members stepping up to write some very nice articles. Thanks to the authors and to those who encouraged them to do so! As an 'in case of emergency' move, your editor even wrote a couple of articles to fill gaps. When the content coffers filled, as they always seem miraculously to do, both became unnecessary. You, the readers, appeared to have been spared the drudgery of an article by your editor. Then came the President's Corner. It's one of the last things that we receive, allowing Jack to comment on the most recent events. He just had to mention Revere and Sword in Hand notes! Sorry. Not to worry, though. This issue has something for everyone. The imperative is clear: Keep the great content coming!*

*Also, please take note of the announcements, such as the important Vermont Ryder-3 study being undertaken by Jim Glickman and Mark Vitunic. And, if there are ads/announcements that are no longer current, please advise. Finally, please, please stay safe and Thank you!]*

# POSSIBLE DIE ENGRAVING PROCESS REVEALED IN A NEW POTATO HEAD FAMILY MEMBER

(Roger A. Moore MD)

## INTRODUCTION

The Potato Head Family is an extremely crude Family of 1776 dated Irish counterfeit halfpence. (1) The name of the Family is derived from the child's toy – "Mr. Potato Head" - which uses a potato as the base for sticking on various crude facial features, such as ears, lips and noses to make a man-like face. (see Figure 1) The resultant toy is similar to the crude image of King George III on the obverse of the Potato Head Family varieties. The basic characteristics of a typical Potato Head member is shown in Figure 2. Of interest all the features of the dies used to mint these coins seem to have been hand carved without the use of punches for the devices, legends and dates.

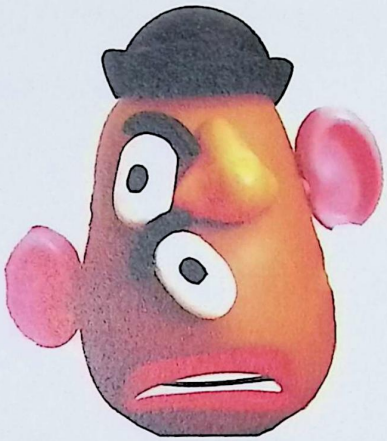

Figure 1 – An example of a "Mr. Potato Head" concoction.

Figure 2 – Variety 6-D Potato Head Family member with nose, lips, and eyes that look to have been stuck onto a potato shaped head. Legends and dates are also hand cut and crude.

It is well known that engravers of both regal and counterfeit coppers used various methods to speed the making of dies. "Center dots" are evidence of one such method, (2, 3) where the sharp point of a compass-like device was placed in the center of the die, causing a slight indentation into the die, while the other arm of the compass was used to make concentric circles around the edge of the die to serve as a guide for the placement of the legends. These concentric circular lines are called "scribe lines." Since the "center dots" and "scribe lines" were usually very lightly scratched into the die, evidence of these guides can only be seen on high grade coins, if at all. In the case of both the "center dots" and the "scribe lines," they

appear as elevated areas on the coin. An example of a "center dot" on a Regal 1749 halfpenny reverse is shown in Figure 3, while "scribe lines" are also illustrated on both a Regal 1749 halfpenny (see Figure 4) and a 1775 counterfeit halfpenny from the Long Neck Family (see Figure 5). (4)

Figure 3 – Center dot on the reverse of a 1749 in a Regal halfpenny.

Figure 4 – Scribe lines on the obverse of a 1770 Regal halfpenny.

Figure 5 - Scribe lines on the obverse of a 1775 Long Neck counterfeit halfpenny.

**NEW DIE ENGRAVING METHOD**

The Stack's October 20, 2018 numismatic auction (5) included a very unusual 1776 dated counterfeit halfpenny. The lot description stated:

> *105.4 grains. Dies oriented at about 270 degrees. Light golden brown and generally smooth but for a few marks of general circulation. Little central detail exists on this crudely made coin, as intended and as made by the counterfeiter, a combination of detail-less dies and a shallow strike. Both sides struck a bit off-center on a flan that was probably too small for the designs, resulting in only a few letters of the legends fully visible on each side. The round head and fish lips on George are more reminiscent of the halfpence of 1766, this obverse muled with a reverse dated 1776, which should have been mated with an obverse bust of George with flowing tresses below the truncation. The date itself is fascinating, the final digit made not of actual strokes but of 7small dots that were probably guide marks for the cutting of that final date digit. Similar guide marks can be seen along the remaining harp strings. Here is a fantastic crude counterfeit from hand cut dies that is unique according to the consignor's notes.*

Even a cursory inspection of this coin indicated something odd, and unusual which I have never seen before on any of the thousands of counterfeit halfpence I have inspected. (see Figure 6) First, the coin was extremely crude and it was evident that the die engraved to make the coin was hand cut. Second, the coin seems to fit nicely into a rare 1776 dated Family of crude Irish counterfeit halfpence called the Potato Head Family, but a new and previously undescribed obverse and reverse in that Family. (1) Based on the present number and lettering system for the Potato Head Family, this coin is now designated as Variety 10-G. Finally, the outstanding feature of this coin was the last digit in the date. The number 6 was represented by a series of seven dots. (see Figure 7) The unanswered question is what do these dots represent and why isn't the number 6 placed in the expected position instead? This author tends to agree with the cataloger of the auction that the dots represent a pre-engraving technique which was placed on the die to guide the actual hand cutting of the number 6. If punches were used to make the dies, instead of hand engraving, the need for these dots would have been questionable. Therefore, we can hypothesize that all the numbers and perhaps even all the hand cut letters in the legends were originally placed on the die as a series of dots in order to get the spacing correct, followed by hand caving the actual letters and numbers over the dots.

Figure 6 – The new and presently unique member of the Potato Head Family, designated as variety10-G, with placement of seven dots in the reverse date where the number 6 should appear.

Figure 7 – Close up of the last digit of the date made with a series of 7 dots. The dots most likely served as a guide for the engraver who was hand cutting the dies..

## CONCLUSIONS

A new member of the Potato Head Family of counterfeit Irish halfpence is described with a very unusual feature of the last digit of the 1776 date - represented by a series of seven dots conforming to the shape of a number six. It is hypothesized that these dots served as a pre-engraving guide placed to help the engraver perform his hand cutting of the dies with correct spacing and size. For some reason the engraver either was too inebriated or exhausted to complete the final engraving of the last digit of the date. Therefore, the die was put into service with the last digit of the date represented by the series of dots We know from the existence of "center dots" and "scribe lines" on coins made with dies that were engraved utilizing punches, that various methods were used to ease the engraving process. Therefore, it is not unexpected that makers of hand engraved crude counterfeits ,which would seemingly be more difficult than using punches, would also use methods to help guide their hand engraving of dies. However, the fact that the described example is the only presently known

counterfeit halfpence with evidence that die engraving was aided by placing a series of dots on the die where the engraving was to be performed, weakens any argument that this approach was wide spread. There is no question that at least this author will be inspecting all counterfeit halfpence in the future for evidence that placements of dots was performed to guide the actual engraving, especially on hand-cut dies.

**REFERENCES;**


1) Moore R. A., Rock J. R., "The Potato Head Family;" (ed. Moore, R. A., Andrews, E., Bowers, R. L., et al,) *Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpenny & Farthing Families*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2018, pp. 186-188.

2) Mossman, P. L., "More on TN-56: Center Dot on New Jersey Reverses;" *The Colonial Newsletter,* Vol. 40, # 1, Serial No. 113, April 2000, p. 2066.

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5) Stacks & Bowers Auction, October 26, 2018, Lot 6185.



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# DANIEL ECCLESTON'S 1805 GEORGE WASHINGTON MEDAL

(Ray Williams)

After speaking with our editor, I promised an article for the *C4 Newsletter* and here it is. I decided to write about the second favorite Washington medal in my collection – the 1805 Eccleston Medal. My collecting pursuits normally don't include anything after the Confederation Era, but medals and tokens honoring George Washington are an exception. Before talking about the medal, I think a little information about the man who commissioned it is in order.

Daniel Eccleston (1745 – 1821) was raised in the Quaker tradition. Later in life he promoted religious beliefs that eventually had him expelled from the Quaker church. He was a business man, carrying on many different cross-Atlantic endeavors. He traveled extensively to the New World. He spent a few days visiting George Washington in Alexandria, VA, well before the Revolution. In his own words:

> *During my residence in Virginia, when at Alexandria, I had the pleasure, and I may also add, the honour, of meeting with General Washington, who gave me an invitation to call and spend a few days with him on his estate at Mount Vernon.*

Eccleston traveled with an Iroquois Chief and other Native Americans from Canada and south into New York. He describes the event as follows:

> *In my returning from Montreal to Boston, sailed down Lake Champlain and Lake George, in a birch bark canoe, with the king of the Cohnawaga nation and five other Indians and was eleven days [and] twelve nights on the lakes and in the woods with them.*

It was probably his Quaker upbringing (all men are equal and have inherent worth, regardless of race or religion) and his direct contact with Native Americans that made him sensitive to the plight of the Native Americans expressed in the reverse center of the Eccleston Medal.

Eccleston spent some time in prison for publishing his political and religious beliefs, that were considered radical at the time.

He was familiar with the experiments of Ben Franklin and became personally involved with electrical experiments and magnetism.

Eccleston sent Thomas Jefferson three of his medals. Jefferson's reply letter is in the archives, acknowledging receipt of the medals and expressing his enthusiastic approval of the honor it bestows on Washington, and that this honor was done by an Englishman.

Carolyn Downs of the University of Lancaster (England) wrote a 19 page article about Eccleston, which is the source of much of my information. It was published in 2006 as part of the Quaker Studies, Volume 10, Issue 2, page 203. It is well worth the time to read. Supposedly, Eccleston's death was published in a newspaper prematurely and a week later he replied in print from the great beyond…

As any successful humble businessman would do in the 1790s, Danny had a Conder token struck with his image on the obverse. Dalton & Hammer lists three of his tokens: 56, 57 & 58. For the very first time, Boulton used a raised rim with incuse letters for the legend on 57 and 58 – similar to those of the Cartwheel 1797 issues. Dies were engraved by Noel-Alexander Ponthon and the tokens struck at the Soho Mint.

1805 ECCLESTON MEDAL
Commissioned by Daniel Eccleston (1745 – 1821) of Lancaster England
Designed by Thomas Webb – "WEBB" on truncation
Engraved by Noel Pontheon – a French exile

Obverse Legend: "General Washington / Inscribed to his memory by D: Eccleston. Lancaster MDCCCV."

Reverse Legend: "He laid the foundation of American Liberty in the XVIII century. Innumerable millions yet unborn will venerate the memory of the man who obtained their country's freedom."

Reverse Center: A Native American standing, leaning on a bow and holding an arrow in his right hand. Surrounded by the words: "The Land Was Ours."

The medal is large and thick, 76 mm in diameter. My bronze example is in an NGC slab marked as an MS-60. Being that these medals were struck on cast planchets, it is common to see areas of roughness and that probably explains the low grade. But I buy the coin (medal), not the number. It was described in Medallic Portraits of Washington and given the Baker reference number 85. Neil Musante has written the new standard reference for Washington medals and dedicates a good amount of ink on the Eccleston medal giving it the designation GW-88. He even has the two-page flyer written by Eccleston explaining the design and advertising his medal. Whether you collect Washingtonia or not, the Musante reference should find a place in every colonial numismatic library.

If Eccleston was studying in a university today, and submitted his design of his 1805 medal, he would be expelled for plagiarism! If you compare the Native American on the 1775 "By Deeds Of Peace" medal, to the Eccleston medal, the size is different but the portrait is almost identical – too close to be coincidental. Obviously this medal influenced Eccleston.

On the Quaker Medal, the Native American is reaching out in a handshake of peace with William Penn. On the Eccleston Medal, he is in the exact same position, reaching out his hand, but there is no one there to shake hands with, so he is just left holding his arrow. This medal was commissioned in 1775 by Lady Julia Penn, widow of Thomas Penn (Mar 20, 1702 - Mar 21, 1775), William Penn's son. Lewis Pingo was the engraver. Betts Medal (351) Thomas died in England.

An interesting quote from Betts: "Mentioned in a letter from Juliana Penn, wife of Thomas Penn, to Rev. Wm. Smith dated May 30, 1775: "I send a silver medal, just struck, of the first Proprietor of Pennsylvania."

Washington is one of my favorite Founding Fathers. He was respected world-wide and remained so through the generations. Even his mortal enemy (King George III) had this to say about him after he had announced he would be voluntarily relinquishing power by retiring as President, he was "placed in a light the most distinguished of any man living," and was "the greatest character of the age." No wonder, then, that in the wake of his death that the House of Representatives passed a resolution authored by Henry Lee that summarized America's thoughts on Washington: "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

# MR. ECCLESTON'S SUPERB MEDALLION
OF
# *GENERAL WASHINGTON.*

*OBVERSE.*

*An elegant and very striking likeness of* GENERAL WASHINGTON, *from an original painting.*

*REVERSE.*

*An American Indian with his Bow and Arrow, and an appropriate legend.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON, the subject of this Medallion, is universally acknowledged one of the greatest characters of the present age. He was, said Mr. Fox in parliament, "the greatest public character that ever lived, in any country, or in any "age; and compared with whom, all the Sovereigns of the Universe (our own excepted) are but like the atoms that dance in the sun-beams, compared with that glorious "fountain of light and heat."

It was under the auspices of Liberty, and by supporting the cause of freedom, that he became known to mankind, and, in giving this inestimable blessing to the Western World, he has built a reputation of the most solid materials, magnificent as lasting, conciliating the esteem of the present generation, and the admiration of posterity.

When the object for which he accepted the command of the American Armies was achieved, he immediately, and voluntarily resigned the power with which he was entrusted; divesting himself of the highest military and civil honours, when the public interest no longer demanded that he should retain them: retiring from the head of an Army which adored him: and such was the humanity of this GREAT MAN, that, so far from "fighting all his battles o'er again," he never could afterwards bear to converse on a subject which would have flattered the vanity of almost any other Man. Sir! said he one day to a foreign Gentleman, "I observe you wish me to speak of the War. It is "a conversation I always avoid. I rejoice in the establishment of the liberties of Ame"rica; but the time of the struggle was a horrible period, *in which the best Men were "compelled to do many things repugnant to their nature.*" It was his peculiar lot to be equally useful in obtaining the independence, and consolidating the civil institutions of America, and, after a long series of the most glorious and patriotic services to his Country, he had the felicity of seeing her liberty and independence placed beyond the reach of fortuitous events.

In his address to the people, on retiring from the busy scenes of public life, he says, "though, in reviewing the incidents of administration; I am not conscious of inten"tional error; I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects, not to think it probable that "I may have committed many errors. Whatever they may be, I fervently beseech the "Almighty to avert, or mitigate the evils to which they may tend. I shall also carry "with me the hope that my Country will never cease to view them with indulgence: and "that, after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its service with an upright zeal, the "faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion, as myself must soon be to "the mansions of rest."

The resemblance of a Man who sustained so conspicuous a character, and who effected so great a change in the Western World, naturally excites curiosity. In gratifying this curiosity, and transmitting an idea of his Person to posterity, should it induce his Successors in that extensive republic; or Men in the most elevated situations in Europe, to EMULATE HIS VIRTUES; the Author of this Medallion will think he has rendered an essential service to Mankind.

DANIEL ECCLESTON.

*Lancaster*, 1809.

CLARK, Printer, Market-Place, Lancaster.

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OBVERSE

REVERSE

IN THE XVIII CENTURY. HE LAID THE FOUNDATION OF AMERICAN LIBERTY
VENERATE THE MEMORY — INNUMERABLE MILLIONS OBTAINED
COUNTRYS FREEDOM. OF THE MAN WHO
THE LAND WAS OURS
UNBORN WILL
THEIR

ENGRAVED FROM M.r ECCLESTON'S SUPERB MEDALLION OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.

12569 29420

C4 Newsletter

# BARBADOS' PINEAPPLE COINAGE

(Marcus Mayhugh)

At the close of the eighteenth century, at the very time when the former British colonies in America were hammering out crude coppers in their primitive mints, a wealthy plantation owner on the tiny island of Barbados was searching for his own solution to the lack of coinage in Barbados, as well as a way to facilitate small coinage transactions on his plantation. The end result would be the creation of the popular and rather antiseptically named Barbados "Pineapple" penny. This penny was never authorized by the Barbadian government but proved very effective in relieving the small change situation, not only on the Gibbs plantation, but eventually on the entire island. It also proved to be a rather enigmatic and mysterious issue.

The plantation owner, Sir Philip Gibbs, commissioned a future assistant mint director, John Milton, to produce a well-designed penny token of good weight – exactly half an ounce. The reverse exhibited an island staple, the pineapple. The obverse is a totally different story – The copper token could just as easily be known as the "Barbados 'slave token'" for here was depicted the head of an African in elaborate headdress with the legend "I Serve."

Why the pineapple was chosen to grace the reserve of the token is not known. It does present a rather interesting image though. No doubt a more vivid and exotic depiction than say, a cane field, or tobacco leaf. The figure on the obverse most assuredly represents a pro-slavery sentiment. Dependent on that "peculiar institution," Sir Philip Gibbs, as a plantation owner, would definitely want to express this type of sentiment. There is speculation that the distinctive plumage of the slave's headwear represents the emblem of the Prince of Wales and, thus, would indicate Royal support for the institution of slavery. It is interesting to note that in the sale of items from the Soho mint, April, 1850, lot 240 was described as "HEAD OF A NEGRO with Crown Prince feathers. Beneath the motto 'I Serve.'" This is a most unusual listing because the Soho mint was not thought to have had anything to do with the striking of these tokens. Why then, it might be asked, do they have this item in their inventory?

At any rate, the Milton's 5,376 tokens were a great success - so successful in fact, that a second issue of 200,000 was introduced to the island in 1791. The strange thing about this second issue is that these tokens, although very similar, were not ordered by Gibbs and were not manufactured by Milton. The second issue has been attributed to a Birmingham die sinker named Hancock based on the strength of one example being struck on a planchet with edge lettering of an earlier Hancock token - suggestive, but not necessarily conclusive. The second issue also was very succesful. As a matter of fact, the Barbados Museum and Historical Society claims that the tokens circulated up until the early twentieth century.

These are the basic differences of the two varieties of Pineapple tokens. However, the series is much more complex. Gary Trudgen has diagrammed various other die states at the Notre Dame site. In addition, Milton changed the reverse in 1792, from a pineapple to Neptune(representing Geoge III) in a chariot pulled by two sea horses ('hippocampus.') Further additions occurred when Matthew Young acquired Milton's dies and produced many fascinating restrikes in different metals. Another mysterious issue was struck with the date 1791. Pridmore called it a concoction, but Lyall thinks it could be a pattern that was created for future strikes. Clearly, the Barbados pineapple coinage offers an excellent study and

collecting area for those interested in early Caribbean coinage and the passing of colonial to modern coinage technology. The most basic distinction between the two issues is the small bust and small pineapple pieces produced by Milton, versus the much larger production of large bust and larger pineapple tokens believed to have been produced by Hancock. Below is a comparison between the two issues.

1788 Barbados Pennies.

| | (Left) Small Bust, Small Pineapple | (Right) Large bust, large pineapple. |
|---|---|---|
| Obverse: | 1. Smaller head<br>2. Rounded chin<br>3. Prominent neck muscles | 1. Larger head.<br>2. Extended chin.<br>3. No neck muscles. |
| Reverse: | 1. Smaller pineapple<br>2. Thinner stalk<br>3. Date close together | 1. Larger pineapple<br>2. Thicker stalk<br>3. Date spread apart |

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# A DUTCH JETON THAT INSPIRED THE COLONIES

(John T. Bolger)

An archeological excavation of a parking lot during the winter of 1983-1984 at what is now the northeast corner of Pearl and Whitehall Streets in the Broad Financial Center of lower Manhattan, New York, identified the East River shoreline of seventeenth century New Amsterdam, several blocks from the current shore.[1] The parcel included the home of Dr. Hans Kierstede, one of New Amsterdam's first physicians who arrived in 1638, and a warehouse of Augustin (a.k.a. Augustyn, Augustine) Heerman (a.k.a. Heermans, Herrman, Herman) who arrived in 1633 and administered the warehouse for the firm of Pieter Gabry & Sons, associated with the West India Company of Amsterdam. (Fig. 1) Archeological dating of the artifacts at this site find "the earliest feature appear (*sic*), based on the historical references…to have been constructed and deposited between 1633 and 1638."[2] Heerman (1621-1686) was a Bohemian from Prague with many talents as a land surveyor, cartographer, privateer, and merchant who joined the opposition to Peter Stuyvesant as Director General of the West India Company for the New Netherlands Colony. Among the artifacts found in the course of the archeological excavation of the remnant of a cobblestone floor was a small, corroded, copper jeton dated 1590 (Fig. 2a, b) and subsequently identified as an example of Dugniolle-3256.[3] The significance of this found object was not lost on experts who noted that "this jeton is the earliest, datable European artifact found in New York." [4]

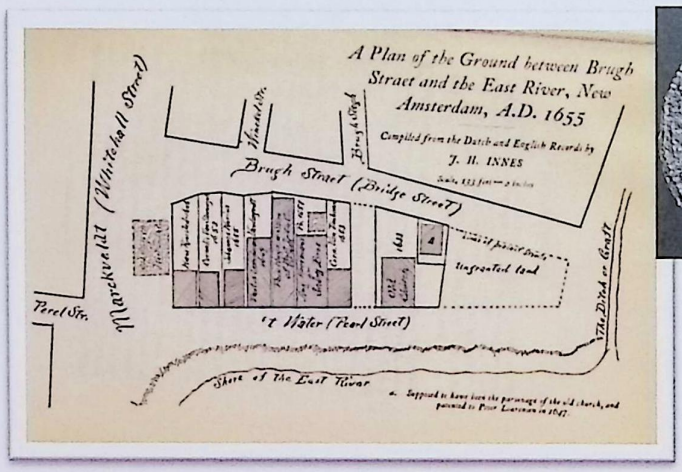
A Plan of the Ground between Brugh Straet and the East River, New Amsterdam, A.D. 1655
Compiled from the Dutch and English Records by J. H. INNES
Brugh Straet (Bridge Street)
Marckvelt (Whitehall Street)
Pearl Str.
't Water (Pearl Street)
Shore of the East River
Unplanted land

Figure 1

Figures 2a and 2b

The monetary system of early 17th century Manhattan encompassed a variety of objects depending upon the parties that were involved with the transaction in this free-trade zone of

[1] Giedroye, Richard. "Discovery Piece Evidence of Coinage in Dutch Colony," *Coin World*, Amos Press. Sydney, Ohio. Vol. 33 (April 27, 1992) Issue 1672, p.1, 10.

[2] Grossman, Joel W., "Archeological Indices of Environmental Change and Colonial Ethnobotany in Seventeenth-Century Dutch New Amsterdam" in *Environmental History of the Hudson River*, Henshaw, Robert E. (ed.) SUNY Press, Albany. 2011. p. 86.

[3] Dugniolle, Dr. J. F., *Le Jeton historique des Dix-Sept Provinces des Pays-Bas*, Tome 3, Fr. Gobbaerts, Bruxelles. 1876. (See also Dugniolle.com, Volume three; dugniolle.com/dugniolle3201-3300.html)

[4] Goldstein, Erik and Lasser, Joseph R., "Dutch Treat; New York Before the British," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 122, No. 10, October, 2009, pp. 36-43.

the New World. Aside from the common barter, monies of account included beaver pelts, Dutch guilders and stivers, Spanish money, and the ubiquitous wampum known to the Dutch as *sewant*. Although possibly used as money if the need arose, jetons, made usually of copper, infrequently silver, and rarely gold, were originally used from the 12th century as reckoning counters in calculations without an intrinsic designation of value.[5] The growing availability of paper and pencils and the increasingly common use of Arabic numbers for calculations in the early 17th century obviated the use of jetons for arithmetic; nevertheless, jetons retained popularity as gaming tokens until the 18th century. Low Country jetons were used as a type of commemorative medal or propaganda piece for the Burgundian Dukes beginning in the mid-15th century. Van Beek notes, "The first part of the Dutch Revolt provides a splendid example of the political use of jetons. From 1572 till 1609 many jetons were used as a part of the psychological warfare, comparable with the issue of pamphlets and prints."[6]

The Articles of The Union of Utrecht, signed January 23, 1579 and adapted by the six Dutch states of Holland, Zeeland, Utrecht, Gelderland, Friesland and rural Groningen established a republican federation which provided for "two main objects – mutual defense against a foreign oppressor and religious toleration" and had an influence on the North American Colonists beginning with the New England Confederacy of 1643.[7] Harline[8] further expands this curiosity stating: "In the debates both of the Continental Congress concerned with the formulation of the Articles of Confederation, and then the Constitutional Convention of 1787, the delegates were interested in the Republic of the United Provinces as a testing ground of the ideas which they advocated or opposed. They turned to the Dutch Republic for examples more frequently than to any other country except England itself."

Figures 3a and 3b (Enlarged)

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[5] Nipper, Will. *In Yankee Doodles Pocket; The Myth, Magic and Politics of Money in Early America*, Bowmanstone Press, Conway, Arkansas, 2008, pp.147-148.

[6] VanBeek, B., "Jetons: Their Use and History," in Needleman, S. B. (ed.) *Perspectives in Numismatics*, Ares Publishers, Chicago. 1986, pp.195-220.

[7] Salmon L. M., "The Union of Utrecht," from *Annual Report of the American Historical Association for 1893*, Government Printing Office, Washington. 1894, pp.137-148.

[8] Harline, C.E., "The Union of Utrecht and the Articles of Confederation, The Batavian Constitution and the American Constitution: A Double Parallel," in Harline, C.E. (ed.) *The Rhyme and Reason of Politics in Early Modern Europe*, Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1992, pp. 215-227.

Figures 4a and 4b

Two further examples of the 1590 Dugniolle-3256 jetons are illustrated. The copper alloy specimen (Fig. 3a, b) is irregularly shaped at about 30 mm diameter and weight of 96.1 grains (6.23grams) and an axis of 90 degrees. The silver specimen (Fig. 4a, b) is 28 mm in diameter weighing 86.3 grains (5.60grams) with an axis of 30 degrees off coin turn. Both have plain edges. An incomplete examination of published illustrations shows several die pairings, e.g., the reverse rightmost arrowhead on the silver jeton points to the "limb tips" of the letter "C" and the comparable arrow on the copper jeton points toward the "upright middle stroke" of the letter "C."

As typical for Dutch jetons of this period, these represent a political message by words and illustrative devices, specifically here commemorating the election of Prince Mauritius of Orange as Stadhouder and the success of the Low Countries in their action against the Spanish breaking away from the Spanish Netherlands. The obverse presents a surrounding legend of 1590.CALC.SENAT.PROVINC.VNIT.BELGII., translated as "counter of the States General of the United Provinces of the Netherlands." The device includes two dexter hands clasped, with ruffled cuffs emanating from clouds in front of a bundle of six arrows, tied with a ribbon, pointing upward with fletchings below. The words DEO above and IUVANTE below, i.e., "with God Helping."

The reverse also has a surrounding legend .HANC.TVEMVR. above and .HAC.NITIMVR. below, separated by two rosettes, the marks of the Dordrecht mint. The legends are translated as "We defend it, we are supported by it (or we depend on it)" and the device shows a central pole, supported by six dexter hands and clothed forearms emanating from clouds on each side, standing upon a closed book below and topped by a wide brimmed hat above. Words LIB ERT above and RE LIG below as "Freedom of Religion."

The allegory of this jeton must have seen some significant approval by its contemporary population as witnessed by the use of multiple dies for its striking, although the time and sequence of the various die strikings is yet to be determined. In context, it is reasonable to assume that the book at the base of the pole is a *Bible* and the clouds are an emblematic convention of someone, divine or mortal, "out there," as mysterious, obscure, or anthropomorphic as we wish to imagine; in this case the supporting hands represent the six states participating by 1590 in the Articles of Union of Utrecht with the elected Stadhouder, Maurice, Prince of Orange. The central column, representing the long familiar Liberty Pole, historically topped with a soft cap or Phrygian cap awarded to emancipated Roman slaves by a Praetor, is here modified in a distinctly Dutch manner with a broad-brimmed Dutch Burgher's

"hat of freedom" completing the symbol of Liberty.[9] The obverse six arrows, again a representation of the six states, are bound together in an unbreakable bundle rather than freely scattered at risk of sequential figurative breakage. Whether the right hands are just clasped in friendship in front of the arrows or are helping to secure the bundle of arrows is open to interpretation.

There is substantial evidence that these symbols and icons had a positive effect on the North American colonists corresponding with their thoughts and goals of emancipation from Great Britain and establishment of a new confederation of states. Salmon[10] gives a capsule list of four confederations that could have been used as models for the New England Confederacy and more broadly for the American Union and its Articles of Confederation. She states in part "...Those of Greece were remote from the thoughts and experiences of the New England colonists as they were distant in time. The holy Roman Empire had little to commend itself to their respect even had they been familiar with its workings..." She further opines that the Confederacy of Switzerland "had little standing among the European Nations." The Dutch Republic of the Union of Utrecht, however, was familiar to many of the Puritans from their time in Leiden, Holland prior to their immigration in 1620 to found the Plymouth Colony of New England.

The First Continental Congress met at Philadelphia on September 5, 1774 with delegates from twelve colonies, lacking representation from Georgia. Hamilton[11] describes the consequential imagery resulting from the publication of the Proceedings (Fig. 5) of this signal event:

> "On Saturday, October 22, 1774, the Congress ordered that the journal of its proceedings be printed under the direction of Edward Biddle and John Dickinson, both of the Pennsylvania delegation, and the Secretary, Charles Thomson. These gentlemen selected as the printer William Bradford and his son Thomas, and shortly thereafter there appeared the Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress, Held at Philadelphia, September 5, 1774. It bears the imprint 'Philadelphia: Printed by William and Thomas Bradford, at the London Coffee-House. M,DCC,LXXIV.'
>
> "It is not a book of great rarity but it is one of unusual interest, for on its title-page a new device appears, one which Justin Winsor in his Narrative and Critical History of America calls 'the earliest device of the colonies.' This device, cut on wood or type metal, shows a pole upon which the liberty cap is perched, the pole being supported by twelve hands and resting on the Magna Charta. Surrounding it is the motto '*Hanc Tuemur, Hac Nitimur*.' **This appears to have been the first device ever designed in this country which from its inception was intended to symbolize the complete political union of the colonies.** Crude as it may be, it foreshadows the birth of a nation and is, therefore, a device of real significance in American iconography. It seems strange that its importance in this respect has not been more generally recognized." [JTB emphasis]

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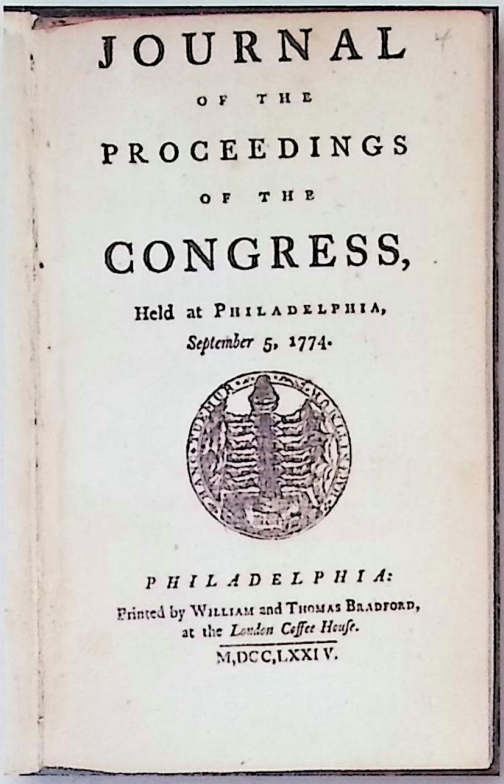
[9] Fischer, D. H., *Liberty and Freedom: A Virtual History of America's Founding Ideas*, Oxford University Press, USA. 2005.

[10] Salmon, see note 7 above.

[11] Hamilton, S., *The Earliest Devices of the Colonies and Some Other Early Devices*, The Princeton University Library Chronicle. Vol. 10, Issue 3, April, 1949, pp. 117-123.

Figure 5



JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

CONGRESS,

Held at PHILADELPHIA,

*September* 5, 1774.

*PHILADELPHIA:*

Printed by WILLIAM and THOMAS BRADFORD,

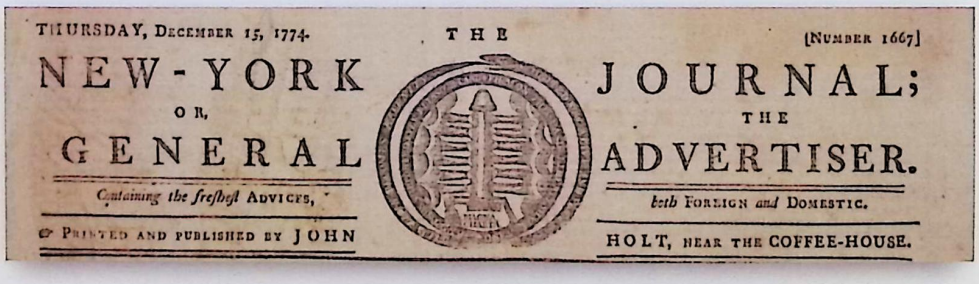
at the *London Coffee House.*

M,DCC,LXXIV.

Those specifically responsible for the conception and design of this device on the title page, be they members of the Congress, the Publisher, or some other person, is not known.[12]

Some alterations of the design of the Dutch 1590 jeton were made including a change from the Dutch Burgher "hat of freedom" to the Phrygian cap of Liberty and a representation of twelve (not yet including Georgia) supportive dexter hands; twelve individual colonies engaged in a mutual struggle in support of liberty and freedom. The base book, again presumably the *Bible*, is now covered with a scroll of the *Magna Charta* of England (1215) that guaranteed certain civil and political liberties to the English people. The surrounding legends, previously translated as "we defend it, we are supported by it (or we depend on it)" remain but the words in the central field "LIBERT" and "RELIG" disappear. The central "liberty pole" as a more robust pillar or column representing fortitude or constancy also endures.

The device was further appropriated and altered by John Holt, printer and publisher of *The New York Journal or the General Advertiser*, beginning December 15, 1774 until ceasing publication in August, 1776. Here the central device remains the same with twelve supporting hands, a Phrygian cap and the *Magna Charta*. The surrounding legends, however, have been removed and a new device of an ouroboros, a serpent with its tail in its mouth, representing eternity or unending time acts as a background for a new poetic legend inscribed as "United now alive and free / Firm on this basis Liberty shall stand / And thus supported ever Bless our Land / Till Time becomes eternity." (Fig. 6)



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1774. THE [NUMBER 1667]

NEW-YORK

OR,

GENERAL

JOURNAL;

THE

ADVERTISER.

*Containing the freshest* ADVICES,

*both* FOREIGN *and* DOMESTIC.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JOHN

HOLT, NEAR THE COFFEE-HOUSE.

Figure 6

[12] Baldwin, H., *A General View of the Origin and Nature of the Constitution and Government of the United States*, John C. Clark, Philadelphia. 1837, pp 3-11.

The central pole supporting thirteen hands, acknowledging the addition of Georgia, have a similar structure incorporating the central device surrounded by the ouroboros on a dedication page for a book, Swan's *Designs in Architecture*, published at Philadelphia in 1775. (Fig. 7)[13]

Figure 7

We find a representation similar to the title page of the *Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress*, September 5, 1774 in a vignette on the North Carolina Currency August 21, 1775, Ten Spanish milled dollar note. (Fig. 8) This shows the twelve hands supporting a narrower Liberty pole resting on the *Magna Charta* and the original HANC TUEMUR and HAC NITIMUR surrounding legends arranged slightly differently on the right. The Phrygian cap rests at the top of the pole. The Provincial Congress of North Carolina on September 7, 1775 charged "a Committee to get proper plates engraved, and to provide paper and to agree with an Engraver to stamp or print the said Bills and to Frame Devices for the same." On October 20, 1775 the Committee informed the Provincial Council that the plates would be engraved and printed by William Tisdale, a New Bern, North Carolina, silversmith and watchmaker who engraved the first Great Seal for the State of North Carolina in 1779.[14]

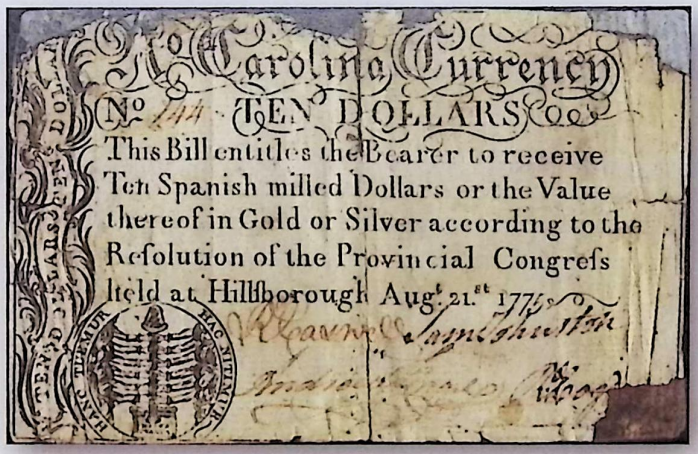

North Carolina Currency
No 144 TEN DOLLARS
This Bill entitles the Bearer to receive
Ten Spanish milled Dollars or the Value
thereof in Gold or Silver according to the
Resolution of the Provincial Congress
held at Hillsborough Aug.t 21.st 1775.
HANC TUEMUR HAC NITIMUR

Figure 8

[13] Olson, L C., *Emblems of American Community in the Revolutionary Era*, Smithsonian Institute Press, Washington. 1991, pp. 42-44, 213.

[14] *Minutes of the Provincial Congress of North Carolina*, Aug.20, 1775 –Sep.10, 1775, Vol. 10. p.194 and Oct.18, 1775-Oct.22, 1775. Vol.10, p.285. See docsouth.unc.edu.

In August 1778, the Continental Army of Southeast Pennsylvania commissioned Jonathan Gostelowe (1744-1795) [15] of Philadelphia to inventory its holdings, including a written description of the regimental flags tabulated in the "Gostelowe Return." One such flag continues the iconography found on the reverse of the 1590 Dutch jeton and is listed as Gostelowe No. 1 or Headman Color (Fig. 9) which shows a central device shaped as a bell lyre with thirteen hands supporting a central liberty pole with the Phrygian cap (described by Gostelowe as a "pillow") labeled "Liberty." Its base is non-descript and the motto on the lyre is "This We Will Defend or Die." There is an arrangement of thirteen stars in the canton. To add to the vexation of flag design and origination the unique Headman Color is itself only a fly end fragment which shows a substantial part of the central device of pole, cap, and hands but does not include the canton; and the field has been desecrated with added black paint lettering.[16]

Figure 9

The obverse of the 1590 Dutch jeton could have been the model for the device on Gostelowe No.13 Continental Army Regimental Standard of 1778 with a clenched fist holding thirteen arrows pointing upwards, a lower motto of "United We Stand" and a square of thirteen stars in the canton. Both flags have a field of green. A similar splaying of arrows may be found on the South Carolina five pound note issued June 1, 1775 as a vignette with twelve arrows (obstreperous Georgia!) bound by a ribbon and covered by the motto "*Auspicium Salutis*" translated in Newman[17] as "an auspice of well-being." North Carolina issued a two and one-half dollar note, engraved by Baltimore goldsmith Gabriel Lewyn, on April 2, 1776 with thirteen splayed arrows held tightly by a hand in a vignette with the motto "*Vis Unitatis*" again translated in Newman as "the power of unity." A further modification of the splayed arrow iconography prior to its use on the Great Seal of the United States within the eagle's sinister talons was on another obscure flag, the "Harmar Color" or the "Fort Washington Flag" where the arrows are secured by a ribbon but points are down above a banner "United We Stand."[18]

Erik Goldstein finds particular importance in following the representation, of the original thirteen colonies as the parallel bars, to other symbols of this new country's

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[15] Anonymous, "Jonathan Gostelowe," *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*, en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Jonathan_Gostelowe&oldid=926547818, Accessed Feb. 12, 2020.

[16] Martucci, Dave, "Information and Misinformation," *The New England Journal of Vexillology*, December, 2008: pp. 1-2. (vexman.net/neva/NEJV23.pdf)

[17] Newman, Eric P., *The Early Paper Money of America*, 5th Ed. Krause Publications. Iola, Wisconsin. 2008

[18] Holst, Donald W., "The Fort Washington Flag." *Queen City Heritage*, Fall, 1991, pp.30-37.

sovereignty and identity eventually resulting in the Great Seal of the United States.[19] And so, as we get closer to identifying emblematic representations of the nascent United States of America we have to deal with earnest heraldry. The last order of business of the Continental Congress of July 4, 1776 charged a committee of Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Thomas Jefferson to "bring a device for a seal for the United States of America." Although Jefferson was the sole member of the committee with knowledge of (arguably) monarchic heraldry it is not difficult to imagine that his republican sentiments did not allow him to put his full heart into the assignment. Consequently, Pierre Eugène Du Simitière, who had previous experience in such matters was consulted and in August, 1776 did draw a proposal centered around a shield but the design was tabled. (Fig. 10)[20]

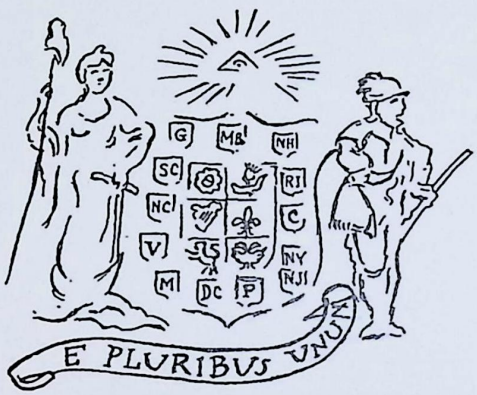



Figure 10

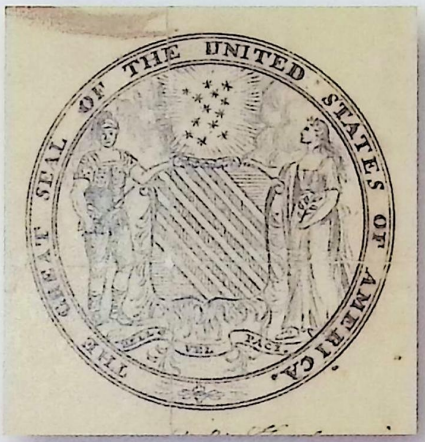



Figure 11

A second committee was formed in March, 1780 resulting in a drawing by Frances Hopkinson that included a shield with thirteen oblique stripes, thirteen stars above and a reverse of a Liberty pole crowned with a Phrygian cap. (Fig. 11) This also was not approved.[21]

The third committee of May, 1782 sought the consultation of a young William Barton (1754-1817) who morphs our jeton image of horizontal hands supporting a freedom hat crowned Liberty pole into a shield containing thirteen horizontal stripes bisected by a column topped by a Liberty cap and an eagle. (Fig. 12) The previous work toward the design for the Great Seal was studied by Charles Thomson (1729-1824) who presented a drawing of an eagle behind a shield of thirteen chevron stripes as though the adjacent stripes supported one another. A constellation of thirteen stars above and thirteen arrows within the eagle's sinister talon continued the imagery. (Fig. 13) Final alterations of the eagle's wing tips and orientation of the thirteen stripes to the vertical presented a model finally approved by the Congress on June 20, 1782.

---

[19] Erik Goldstein personal communication

[20] Orosz, Joel J., *The Eagle That Is Forgotten*, Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc. Wolfeboro, NH. 1988. PP. 41-43.

[21] Patterson, R. S. and Dougall, R., *The Eagle and the Shield; A History of the Great Seal of the United States*, Dept. of State Publications, Washington, 1976.
Also, archive.org/details/TheEagleAndTheShield/mode/2up Note: Most of the detail regarding the Great Seal is gleaned from this remarkable book.

Figure 12

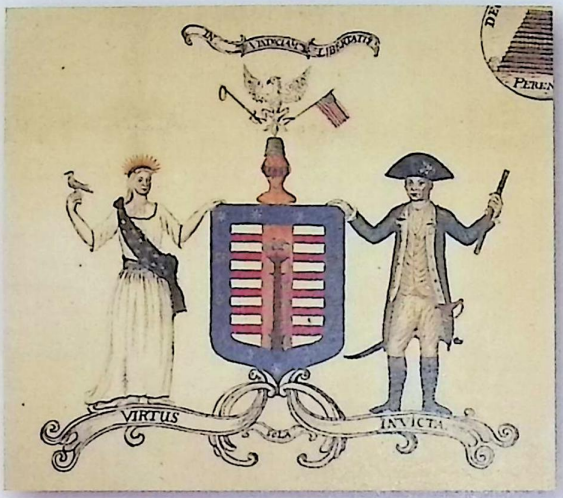



Figure 13

The ideas for other numismatic objects continued to emanate from the same source. The thirteen bars on the oval shield hung from a Liberty pole on the *Libertas Americana* (Betts-608) medal celebrating the Peace of Versailles in 1783 is remarkably similar to the simplicity of the bar copper, first described in November, 1785, with thirteen bars on one side and the intertwined "USA" derived from Continental uniform buttons on the flip side.

In conclusion, we describe a numismatic object (Dugniolle-3256), identified as an example of the Dutch 1590 jeton, found during an archeological dig in lower Manhattan, New York and described by experts as "the earliest datable European artifact found in New York" and an inspiration for "the first device ever designed in this country which from its inception was intended to symbolize the complete political union of the colonies." The powerful devices on the jeton continue to endure in the inspiration of symbols we use today, such as the flag and the Great Seal of the United States. Contrarily, the wisdom and practicality of looking to the Dutch Republic and the Union of Utrecht as a role model for a new government was vigorously and critically debated prior to the writing of the Constitution of the United States of America.[22]

Author's note: I am grateful to Ray Williams for putting this project in my lap; Erik Goldstein, Senior Curator, Mechanical Arts and Numismatics, Colonial Williamsburg, for his early studies and efforts to bring this jeton and its history to our attention, and for his keen

[22] Schulte Nordholt, J. W., "The Example of the Dutch Republic for American Federalism," *BMGN – Low Countries Historical Review*, 94(3), 1979, pp. 437-449.giu.

instinct for what is really important in our early American history; and David Yoon, Associate Curator, and Peter van Alfen, Chief Curator, American Numismatic Society, for their time and expertise translating the Latin legends on the Dutch jeton: *Gratias tibi.*

Figures

Fig. 1. Detail of lower Manhattan showing property of "Aug Heermans or Gabry Bros." midway on block along Pearl Street. 1655. (Wikimedia Commons)

Fig. 2. Actual jeton Dugniolle-3256 excavated in lower Manhattan in 1983-1984. b&w a) obverse, b) reverse. (Courtesy of New York State Museum, Albany, NY)

Fig. 3. Dug-3256 copper alloy a) obverse , b) reverse. (Author's collection)

Fig. 4. Dug-3256 silver a) obverse, b) reverse. (Author's collection)

Fig. 5. Title page of "Journal of the Proceedings of the Congress Held at Philadelphia September 5, 1774." (Courtesy of Library Company of Philadelphia))

Fig. 6. Central device of masthead to John Holt's "New-York Journal or the General Advertiser" December 15,1774. (Hamilton, Open JSTOR Collection)

Fig. 7. The Ouroboros from device in "The American Edition, of Swan's Designs in Architecture." (Hamilton, Open JSTOR Collection)

Fig. 8. North Carolina Currency, August 21, 1775, Ten Spanish Milled Dollars. (Courtesy Stack's Bowers Galleries)

Fig. 9. Remnant of Headman Color (Smithsonian Institution via WikiTree, Hettmansperger)

Fig. 10. First Committee 1776. Du Simitère's proposal for the Great Seal. (Wikimedia Commons)

Fig. 11. Second Committee 1780. Hopkinson's revised proposal for the Great Seal. (Wikimedia Commons)

Fig. 12. Third Committee 1782. Barton's revised proposal. (Wikimedia Commons)

Fig. 13. Thomson's proposal prior to Barton's revision which was accepted. 1782. (Wikimedia Commons)

# NEW JERSEY CIRCULATION STUDY UPDATE
# 24 MARCH 2020

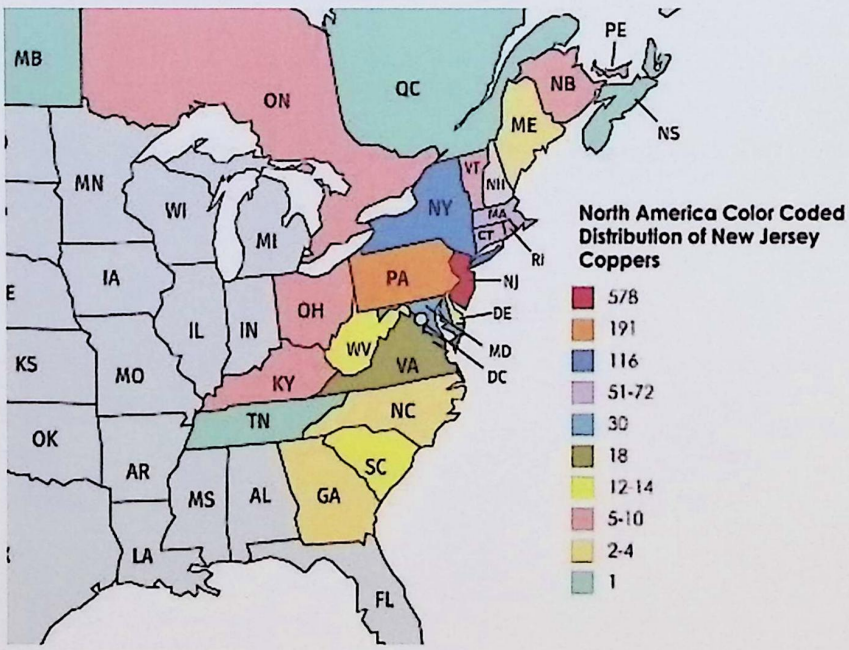
(Don Hartman)

This is an update to my article in the C4 Newsletter of Summer 2016, Volume 24, Number 2 of ground recovered New Jersey coppers. I started this survey in the early part of 2004, so I have now been collecting data on the New Jersey's for over 16 years. The survey continues indefinitely and already several more have been added since I wrote this update.

In the summer 2016 article there were 813 ground recovered New Jersey coppers of which 547 were identified by variety. At that time there were 69 varieties in the study. This update as of March 2020 has 1,176 ground recovered coins of which 880 have been identified by variety. There are now 79 varieties in the study. The 79th variety was just recently identified by me and it is only the 2nd known example of that variety, so I was very pleased to have identified the coin for the owner who found the coin three years ago but had no idea that the coin was so rare. (That discovery is documented in an accompanying article.)

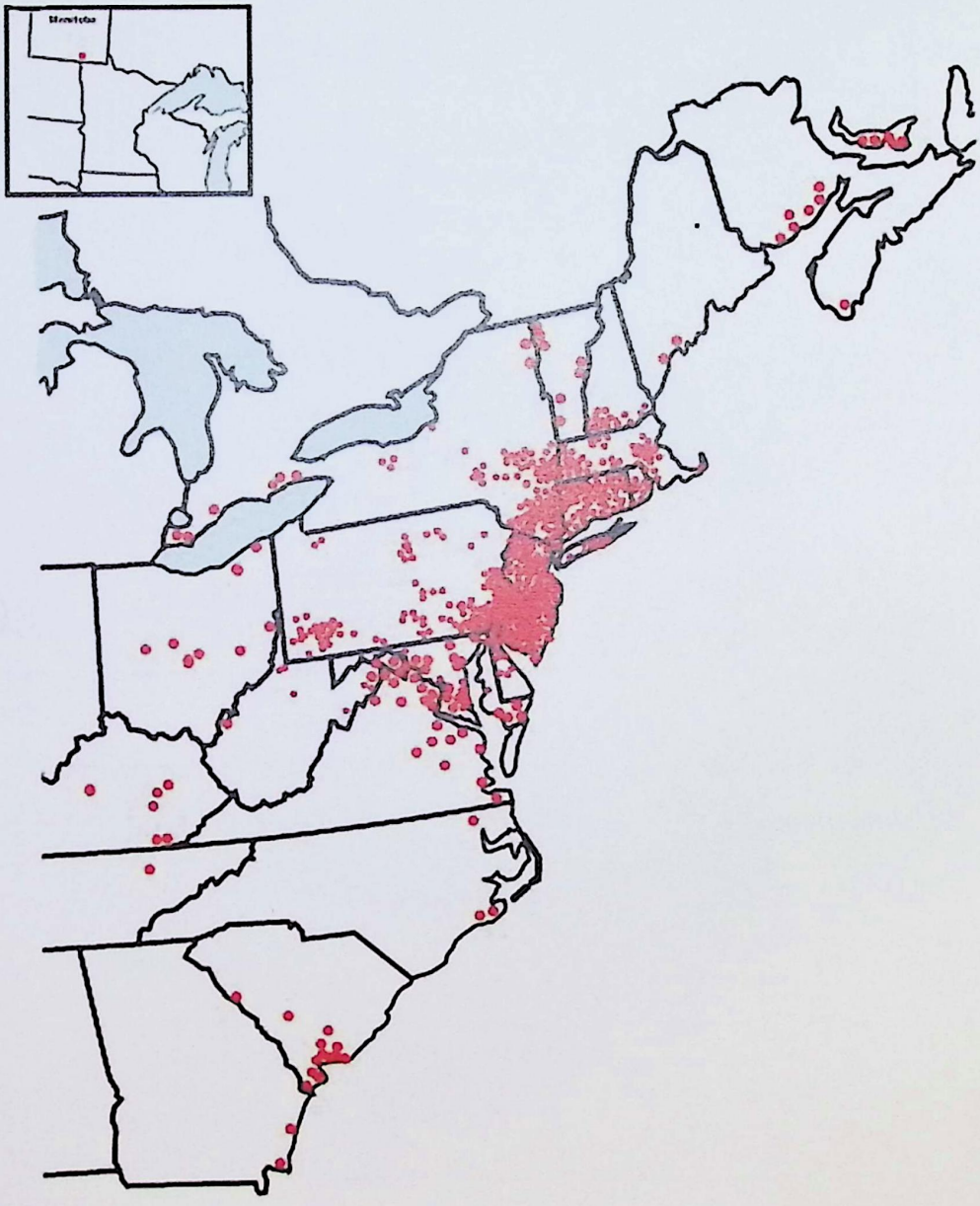
Since this is a short update on the survey I will have a few figures and tables showing the distribution by states/provinces, a breakdown by State and County/Province found and a list of all the varieties that have been identified. I believe now with this larger number of identified varieties that it might help in the future for determining rarity ratings, so the survey is not only a distribution survey but also a variety database.

**DISTRIBUTION MAPS**



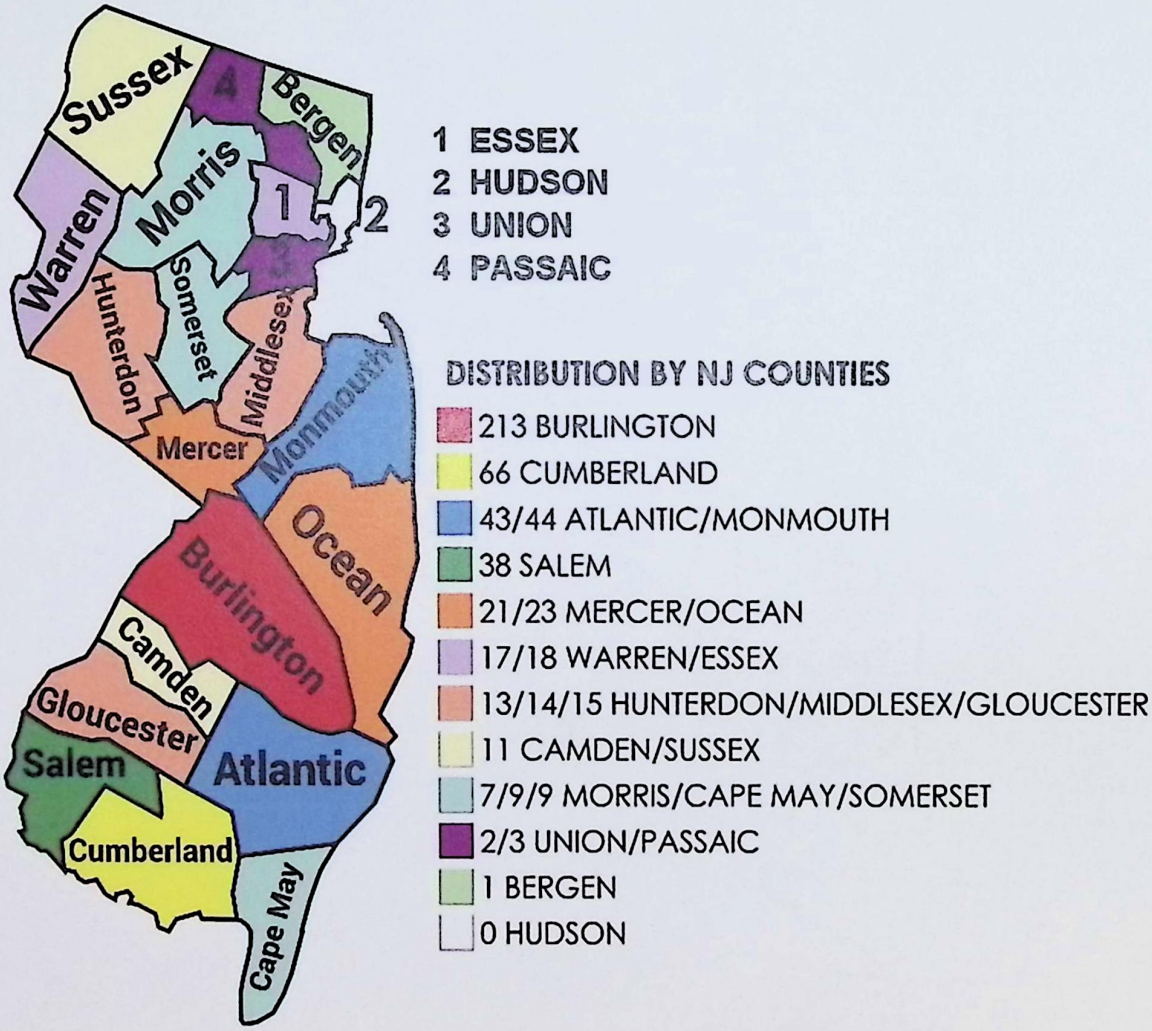

Map 1. North American Color-coded Distribution

The concentration of the finds can be emphasized by using this dot density map of North America. This map is just a rough demonstration of the concentrations and not the actual pinpoint locations in the state and province. There has been no change since the 2016 article where the most distant reported recovery was at a fur trade post in the province of Manitoba, Canada, an estimated 1600 miles away from any of the mints. The most distant recovery in the United States also remains the same as in the 2016 article which was in Camden County, Georgia, next to the Florida border. See Map 2.



Map 2. North America Dot Density Distribution Map

By far the state of New Jersey has reported the most recovered coins. New Jersey accounts for over 49% of the total finds in the survey. The farming area of the past and present continue to be the most productive areas, although in recent years the areas that are now woodlands have been increasing in reported finds. Burlington County leads the way with 213 coins which is more in that county alone than any of the other state totals. See Map 3.




Map 3. Distribution by New Jersey Counties

## STATE /PROVINCE BREAKDOWN BY COUNTY

Table 1 is the breakdown of all 1,176 New Jersey coppers found by state/province and by county. A total of 19 states and 6 provinces are list. See Table 1.

| NEW JERSEY | # |
|---|---|
| Atlantic | 43 |
| Bergen | 1 |
| Burlington | 213 |
| Camden | 11 |
| Cape May | 9 |
| Cumberland | 66 |
| Essex | 18 |
| Gloucester | 15 |
| Hunterdon | 13 |
| Mercer | 21 |
| Middlesex | 14 |
| Monmouth | 44 |
| Morris | 7 |
| Ocean | 23 |
| Passaic | 3 |
| Salem | 38 |
| Somerset | 9 |
| Sussex | 11 |
| Union | 2 |
| Warren | 17 |
| **NJ TOTAL** | **578** |

| CONNECTICUT | # |
|---|---|
| Fairfield | 5 |
| Hartford | 10 |
| Litchfield | 21 |
| Middlesex | 5 |
| Tolland | 7 |
| New Haven | 10 |
| New London | 8 |
| Windham | 6 |
| **CT TOTAL** | **72** |

| NEW HAMPSHRE | # |
|---|---|
| Cheshire | 14 |
| Hillsborough | 3 |
| Rockingham | 2 |
| **NH TOTAL** | **19** |

| PENNSYLVANIA | # |
|---|---|
| Adams | 3 |
| Alleghany | 6 |
| Bedford | 2 |
| Berks | 5 |
| Beaver | 1 |
| Bradford | 3 |
| Bucks | 58 |
| Chester | 16 |
| Columbia | 1 |
| Cumberland | 1 |
| Delaware | 1 |
| Fayette | 1 |
| Fulton | 1 |
| Hunterdon | 4 |
| Huntingdon | 2 |
| Lackawanna | 1 |
| Lancaster | 3 |
| Luzerne | 1 |
| Lycoming | 7 |
| Montgomery | 12 |
| Northampton | 10 |
| Northumberland | 4 |
| Philadelphia | 15 |
| Somerset | 3 |
| Union | 1 |
| Warren | 2 |
| Washington | 9 |
| Westmoreland | 14 |
| Wyoming | 1 |
| York | 3 |
| **PA TOTAL** | **191** |

| MASSACHUSETTS | # |
|---|---|
| Barnstable | 1 |
| Berkshire | 18 |
| Bristol | 8 |
| Franklin | 5 |
| Hampton | 1 |
| Middlesex | 2 |
| Norfolk | 1 |
| Plymouth | 1 |
| Suffolk | 1 |
| Worcester | 13 |
| **MASS TOTAL** | **51** |

| NEW YORK | # |
|---|---|
| Albany | 10 |
| Bronx | 1 |
| Chenango | 1 |
| Clinton | 1 |
| Columbia | 10 |
| Dutchess | 25 |
| Greene | 1 |
| Kings | 1 |
| Montgomery | 3 |
| NYC | 1 |
| Oneida | 1 |
| Orange | 7 |
| Oswego | 1 |
| Otsego | 7 |
| Putnam | 3 |
| Ontario | 3 |
| Rockland | 1 |
| Saratoga | 4 |
| Schenectady | 1 |
| Suffolk | 12 |
| Sullivan | 2 |
| Ulster | 14 |
| Washington | 2 |
| Westchester | 4 |
| **NY TOTAL** | **116** |

| MARYLAND | # |
|---|---|
| Baltimore | 3 |
| Calvert | 3 |
| Cecil | 4 |
| Dorchester | 6 |
| Frederick | 3 |
| Harford | 1 |
| Montgomery | 1 |
| Prince George | 2 |
| Somerset | 2 |
| St Mary's | 1 |
| Talbot | 1 |
| Washington | 1 |
| Wicomico | 1 |
| Worcester | 1 |
| **MD TOTAL** | **30** |

Table 1. State/Province Found by County. (Continued on next page.)

| OHIO | # |
|---|---|
| Clark | 1 |
| Cuyahaga | 1 |
| Fairfield | 3 |
| Jefferson | 1 |
| Union | 1 |
| Summit | 2 |
| Gumsey | 1 |
| **OH TOTAL** | **10** |

| RHODE ISLAND | # |
|---|---|
| Kent | 4 |
| Newport | 1 |
| Providence | 3 |
| Washington | 1 |
| **RI TOTAL** | **9** |

| KENTUCKY | # |
|---|---|
| Fleming | 1 |
| Montgomery | 1 |
| Nelson | 2 |
| Whitley | 2 |
| **KY TOTAL** | **6** |

| NEW BRUNSWICK | # |
|---|---|
| Fredericton | 2 |
| St Johns | 1 |
| UNK | 4 |
| **N B TOTAL** | **7** |

| GEORGIA | # |
|---|---|
| Chatham | 1 |
| Camden | 1 |
| **GA TOTAL** | **2** |

| VIRGINIA | # |
|---|---|
| Caroline | 1 |
| Clark | 1 |
| Fairfax | 3 |
| Frederick | 1 |
| Fredericksburg | 1 |
| Hampton Roads | 1 |
| Louden | 2 |
| Middlesex | 1 |
| Norfolk | 1 |
| Prince George | 1 |
| Prince William | 2 |
| Rappahannock | 1 |
| Shenanadoah | 1 |
| Spotsylvania | 1 |
| **VA TOTAL** | **18** |

| WEST VIRGINIA | # |
|---|---|
| Berkeley | 1 |
| Jefferson | 4 |
| Kanawha | 1 |
| Mason | 2 |
| Morgan | 1 |
| Jackson | 1 |
| Ohio | 2 |
| **W VA TOTAL** | **12** |

| PRINCE EDWARD IL | # |
|---|---|
| Prince | 4 |
| Queen | 1 |
| **PEI TOTAL** | **5** |

| MAINE | # |
|---|---|
| Sagadahoc | 1 |
| York | 1 |
| **ME TOTAL** | **2** |

| TENNESSEE | # |
|---|---|
| Union | 1 |
| **TN TOTAL** | **1** |
| | 1 |

| MANITOBA | # |
|---|---|
| South of Winnipeg | 1 |
| **MANITOBA TOTAL** | **1** |

| DELAWARE | # |
|---|---|
| Kent | 3 |
| New Castle | 11 |
| **DE TOTAL** | **14** |

| SOUTH CAROLINA | # |
|---|---|
| Beaufort | 3 |
| Berkeley | 3 |
| McCormick | 1 |
| Orangeburg | 1 |
| Charleston | 5 |
| **SC TOTAL** | **13** |

| VERMONT | # |
|---|---|
| Bennington | 1 |
| Chittenden | 1 |
| Grand Isle | 3 |
| Orange | 2 |
| Rutland | 1 |
| **VT TOTAL** | **8** |

| ONTARIO | # |
|---|---|
| Essex | 1 |
| unk | 5 |
| **ONTARIO** | **6** |

| NORTH CAROLINA | # |
|---|---|
| Carteret | 2 |
| Gates | 1 |
| **NC TOTAL** | **3** |

| NOVA SCOTIA | # |
|---|---|
| Amherst | 1 |
| **N S TOTAL** | **1** |

| QUEBEC | # |
|---|---|
| Quebec City | 1 |
| **QUEBEC TOTAL** | **1** |

Table 1. State/Province found by County (Continued from previous page)

## STATE AND PROVINCE NUMBERS

This table shows there were 19 States and six Canadian Provinces that reported finding New Jersey Coppers. Out of 1176 reported found, 880 were attributed by variety for a total of 75% of total number found.

Table 2. Breakdown by State/Province

| STATE/ PROVINCE | TOTAL RECOVERED | ID'd By VARIETY | % ID'd VARIETY |
|---|---|---|---|
| MANITOBA | 1 | 0 | 0% |
| NOVA SCOTIA | 1 | 0 | 0% |
| TN | 1 | 0 | 0% |
| QUEBEC | 1 | 1 | 100% |
| ME | 2 | 1 | 50% |
| GA | 2 | 2 | 100% |
| NC | 3 | 2 | 67% |
| PRINCE EDWARD | 5 | 2 | 40% |
| ONTARIO | 6 | 5 | 83% |
| NEW BRUNSWICK | 7 | 4 | 57% |
| KY | 6 | 4 | 67% |
| VT | 8 | 8 | 100% |
| RI | 9 | 5 | 56% |
| OH | 10 | 9 | 90% |
| WV | 12 | 10 | 83% |
| SC | 13 | 3 | 23% |
| DE | 14 | 10 | 71% |
| VA | 18 | 10 | 56% |
| NH | 19 | 14 | 74% |
| MD | 30 | 17 | 57% |
| MA | 51 | 40 | 78% |
| CT | 72 | 59 | 82% |
| NY | 116 | 86 | 74% |
| PA | 191 | 146 | 76% |
| NJ | 578 | 442 | 77% |
| TOTALS | 1176 | 880 | 75% |

## NEW JERSEY VARIEITES FOUND

The survey is now up to 880 that have been identified by variety. There are now 79 different varieties in the survey, up from the 69 in the 2016 survey. The top three most common found varieties continues to be Maris 43-d by far, followed by 48-g and 46-e. See Table 3.

| VARIETY | QUANTITY | RARITY | % | VARIETY | QUANTITY | RARITY | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 43-d | 96 | 1 | 10.9% | 37-f | 3 | 4 | 0.3% |
| 48-g | 76 | 1 | 8.6% | 42-c | 3 | 5+ | 0.3% |
| 46-e | 70 | 1 | 8.0% | 49-f | 3 | 5 | 0.3% |
| 6-D | 44 | 2 | 5.0% | 59-o | 3 | 5+ | 0.3% |
| 14-J | 43 | 1 | 4.9% | 68-w | 3 | 5 | 0.3% |
| 64-t | 43 | 1 | 4.9% | 12-G | 2 | 4 | 0.2% |
| 39-a | 37 | 2 | 4.2% | 17-K | 2 | 3 | 0.2% |
| 16-L | 30 | 2 | 3.4% | 18-J | 2 | 5+ | 0.2% |
| 63-s | 29 | 2 | 3.3% | 21-P | 2 | 5 | 0.2% |
| 67-v | 29 | 1 | 3.3% | 25-S | 2 | 5+ | 0.2% |
| 56-n | 27 | 1 | 3.1% | 26-S | 2 | 5 | 0.2% |
| 38-c | 23 | 3 | 2.6% | 28-L | 2 | 3 | 0.2% |
| 38-Y | 19 | 3 | 2.2% | 30-L | 2 | 4 | 0.2% |
| 54-k | 18 | 3 | 2.0% | 47-e | 2 | 6- | 0.2% |
| 32-T | 16 | 2 | 1.8% | 48-f | 2 | 3 | 0.2% |
| 62-q | 16 | 3 | 1.8% | 55-l | 2 | 5 | 0.2% |
| 15-T | 15 | 3 | 1.7% | 58-n | 2 | 5- | 0.2% |
| 34-J | 12 | 3 | 1.4% | 63-r | 2 | 5 | 0.2% |
| 18-M | 11 | 3 | 1.3% | 66-v | 2 | 5+ | 0.2% |
| 23-R | 11 | 3 | 1.3% | 71-y | 2 | 6+ | 0.2% |
| 23-P | 10 | 4 | 1.1% | 10.5-C | 1 | 8+ | 0.1% |
| 24-P | 10 | 2 | 1.1% | 12-I | 1 | 5 | 0.1% |
| 65-u | 10 | 4 | 1.1% | 13J | 1 | 6 | 0.1% |
| 77-dd | 10 | 2 | 1.1% | 18-L | 1 | 8 | 0.1% |
| 63-q | 9 | 3 | 1.0% | 24-R | 1 | 5+ | 0.1% |
| 15-J | 8 | 4 | 0.9% | 35-J | 1 | 6- | 0.1% |
| 17-b | 8 | 3 | 0.9% | 35-W | 1 | 7+ | 0.1% |
| 31-L | 8 | 3 | 0.9% | 37-J | 1 | 5+ | 0.1% |
| 75-bb | 8 | 4 | 0.9% | 38-a | 1 | 5 | 0.1% |
| 73-aa | 7 | 4 | 0.8% | 43-Y | 1 | 5- | 0.1% |
| 17-J | 6 | 4 | 0.8% | 45-e | 1 | 5- | 0.1% |
| 38-Z | 6 | 5 | 0.8% | 57-n | 1 | 6+ | 0.1% |
| 52-i | 6 | 3 | 0.8% | 61-p | 1 | 5 | 0.1% |
| 60-p | 6 | 4 | 0.8% | 64-u | 1 | 5 | 0.1% |
| 33-U | 5 | 4 | 0.6% | | | | |
| 44-d | 5 | 4 | 0.6% | | | | |
| 50-f | 5 | 3 | 0.6% | | | | |
| 53-j | 5 | 4 | 0.6% | | | | |
| 6-C | 4 | 5- | 0.5% | | | | |
| 15-L | 4 | 4 | 0.5% | | | | |
| 28-S | 4 | 5 | 0.5% | | | | |
| 55-m | 4 | 4 | 0.5% | | | | |
| 20-N | 3 | 4 | 0.3% | | | | |
| 21-N | 3 | 3 | 0.3% | 880 | ID'd BY VARIETY | | |
| 27-S | 3 | 5 | 0.3% | 79 | VARIETIES | | |

Table 3. Quantity of each variety found

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion I would like to say that I will continue this survey for as long as I am able to and provide updates like this as the data increases and hope this is of some beneficial use in the future. At the current rate of reported finds I hope to have over 1000 New Jersey coppers identified by variety by beginning of 2022. That should be approximately a total of reported New Jersey coppers around 1350 coins.

I want to give thanks to all of the metal detectorists out there who are and have been the main contributers to this survey thanks to the Facebook groups and metal detecting forums and I also want to give special thanks to Wayne Shelby who has been my main go-to guy for confirmation of many of the hard to attribute coins.

**ADDENDUM**

Of course, after I submitted the article, I got several more inputs which is fine. However, two of the inputs were varieties not previously found: 1787 Maris 29-L and 1787 Maris 72-z. Both are now in the survey, bringing total varieties from 79 to 81. The 72-z was a nice challenge to ID, so close to a 73aa.

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# A SECOND "FUR HEAD" NJ DISCOVERED!

(Don Hartman)

I have been collecting data on ground found NJ coppers since 2004 and the database continues to grow, in most part due to the numerous metal detecting groups that are on Facebook. The exposure to so many has brought in many coins for the survey and I recently posted on a very large group on Facebook with over 10,000 members information about the NJ Circulation study that I have been doing. That posting immediately got responses from four individuals and I always try, no matter what condition the coin is in, to attribute the variety. This has become a major part of the survey, in addition to where the coins have been found, by state and county.

I had the privilege of identifying a New Jersey copper recently that will be of interest to variety collectors. After paging through Mike Demling's NJ Copper book and the book by Siboni, Howes and Ish I had no doubt that it is a 1786 Maris 10.5-C variety. I quickly wanted verification so I sent the photos to Dr Roger Moore, Ray Williams and Wayne Shelby for confirmation which I received that day.

The coin is in deteriorated condition but the needed details are there for an easy identification. I was contacted by the brother of who found the coin. He saw my posting on that large Facebook group and said, "I just wanted to help you with your study." He had no idea the coin was anything special.

After conversing with him, he told me his brother found the coin in Plymouth County in the state of Massachusetts about three years ago. I informed him of the rarity of the coin and he and his brother are blown away by the news.

This is the rarest coin reported to me in the survey of over 1160 coins, and approximately 865 of which have been attributed by variety.

# THE PERENNIAL PROBLEM WITH PATENT FARTHING PRIVIES

(Mark A. Sportack)

Collecting patent farthings present problems that are familiar to collectors of pre-Federal coins and other ancient issues: they are rare, almost impossible to find in decent states of preservation, and poorly understood. Circulation wear, tin pest and/or environmental damage all take their toll. Factor in their diminutive size and their features start to resemble a metallic Rohrshach test. This is particularly true with privy marks. Privy marks were stipulated in the patent as a mandatory anti-counterfeiting feature and, as such, initially were intentionally quite small so they could be hidden in the design. Given that the overall design didn't change frequently, at least not in significant ways, it's easy to see why the privy marks are one of the primary keys for type identification.

Farthings without a clear privy are hard to sell...even as a filler for a type collection. Indeed, noted numismatist C. Wilson Peck cited: "Uncertainty in the recognition of counterfeits; difficulty in correctly identifying the privy-marks..." as two of the main reasons why collector interest in the entire patent farthing series was, and remained, low. Counterfeiting was a serious problem that I'll address in a future article. In this article I'll show you some of the places that the Harington and Lennox token houses placed their privy marks, and some of the problems that plagued them. These problems are categorized as design-related, minting-related, or post-minting conditions.

## DESIGN-RELATED ISSUES

Harington's small flan patent farthings were tiny. Many would argue too tiny to be effective for their intended role in commerce. The various design features would be even smaller, and some of the privy marks measured just 0.02 inches in width! With so tiny a feature, it's clear that the problems with privy marks started right at the beginning when the dies were sunk. It's a miracle that ANY remain identifiable.

### Too Many Features, Not Enough Room!

Working "in the round" on cylindrical roller dies must have been challenging. That the die images were just 12 or so millimeters in diameter, and the King had proscribed more features and mottoes than would reasonably fit, exacerbated the diesinker's challenge. Punches were extremely small, and it's possible to find mistakes caused by using the wrong one in the wrong place. More common, though, was the diesinker punching devices atop other design devices. A great example of this is shown in Figures 1 and 2. These figures show a Harington Type 1a – the very first crop of patent farthings – with a zero privy. Early numismatists, including Fleet Surgeon A. E. Weightman, believed that the privy marks used in this batch included a zero[1]. Lack of convincing examples led Peck and most numismatists to discredit this as a real privy for this issue, preferring instead to believe that the zero was actually a C

[1] Peck, page 328 discredits the zero privy as an impaired C privy.

impaired by a die crack. Figure 2 shows a closeup that shows Weightman may have been right. The privy mark is located beneath the crown on the obverse, between the scepter handles.

Figure 1:
Harington Type 1a Zero Privy

Figure 2:
Closeup of the Zero Privy

This particular farthing has the scepter handles repunched and infringing on the privy mark. It was advertised and sold as a millrind privy, but magnification demonstrates the scepter handles were repunched atop a zero. The key diagnostic here is the shape of the interior cavity of the privy. It is unlike anything one would expect from the known privies for this type (A, B, C, D, F, S, pellet and ermine). The center cavity also does not appear to have been formed via a repunching of adjacent features. Failing to find a reasonable explanation to the contrary, this farthing gives new life to Weightman's claim that a zero was also used for this type. Positive confirmation, however, requires a clearer example be identified.

This is just one example of a Type 1a Harington patent farthing whose privy was impaired by overlap with other design features. The A privy, for example, frequently is partially obscured by the scepter handle. As both features have a very similar slope, it is not unusual to see one of the A privy's legs completely obscured by the handle. This is shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3:
Harington Type 1a A Privy

The A privy wasn't the only one that could be effectively camouflaged by surrounding design features. Figure 4 shows a remarkably well-preserved tinned Harington Type 1A with an F privy. This gorgeous farthing is a true conditional rarity: it's a rare tinned specimen that exhibits no tin pest nor any significant circulation wear. The F privy is quite clear but is positioned so that it's horizontal

bars perfectly overlap the circlet and bottom line of the crown's band. With either a little tin pest, or a modicum of circulation wear, the F would literally melt into the circlet.

Figure 4:
Pristine Harington Type 1a F Privy

The next figure shows a farthing from a similar die pairing albeit with surfaces impaired by both circulation wear and a modicum of tin pest. Notice how the F becomes much less obvious, even under great magnification?

Figure 5:
Harington Type 1a F Privy with Circulation Wear

## Size Matters

The Type 1b Harington farthing saw the privy relocated from its apparently problematic position beneath the crown and between the scepters to a slightly more problematic location. It would now be the central jewel on the obverse crown's band. This is a great example of trying to discourage counterfeiting (a non-existing problem!) by a design change. The privy was greatly reduced in size and "hidden" in the design.

There were three privies used on this type: a trefoil, crescent, and mullet. The mullet is a five-pointed star. The trefoil looks like a three-leaf clover without a stem, while the crescent resembles a ball with a small bite taken from its top. This differs greatly from all the illustrations one can find in books and the Internet on this topic: they all show a sliver of a crescent moon lying on its back, arms stretched upward as if striving for greater achievement[2]. This discrepancy between illustrations in reference books and sources and what the privy

[2] In English Heraldry the crescent is a cadence mark ascribed to the second-born son. The first-born son's future could be assured through inheriting his father's successes, but the second-born son would have to work a bit harder!

actually looks like is not just a mild curiosity. It's a problem that recurs throughout the patent farthing series due to a severe shortage of examples that were well enough made, and lucky enough to have survived the ages, with a privy still clear enough to read. In the absence of clear and convincing examples, some numismatists made assumptions about what the privy should look like. I'll come back to this point later in this article.

All privies in this type are ridiculously small, with the trefoil being just 0.02 inches in width and the others not much larger. The crescent privy variety is shown in Figure 6. This diminutive size meant that the privy could be very effectively hidden in the design, but truthfully it was too small to be practical, and quickly melted into the other features with a modicum of wear.

Figure 6:
Harington Type 1b Crescent Privy

Now that you've seen where the privy should go on this Harington Type, you can see how its placement was a recipe for disaster. The privy was just too small. Punches that small likely wouldn't have lasted very long, and it would have been difficult to position them properly on so small a die image. That feature on the die would have also filled with grease or debris quite easily. Witness the fact that Peck identified three different varieties of the Harington Type 1b as "unmodified". That is, without a privy. This served as an open invitation to classify any Harington Type 1b patent farthing without a clear privy as an "unmodified" variety.

The clearest examples I've seen of unmodified Type 1b farthings demonstrate a misshapen central jewel. Some privy had been punched there, but the die had clogged or spalled to the point where you couldn't really identify it as any of the known privies. Figure 7 shows you an example that could serve well as the poster child for misattribution. This farthing was recovered from the foreshores of the Thames by a mudlark (a licensed metal detectorist who plies the muddy banks of the Thames River). It's centuries in an anerobic environment preserved its surfaces and even original color nicely. Despite this high-level of preservation, the central jewel isn't as clear as one would hope. It's clear that the central jewel was originally a privy mark as it is too large and misshapen to be a normal jewel, but it's outline is not immediately suggestive of any of the known privy types.

Figure 7: So-called "Unmodified" Harington Type 1b

Lacking a clear privy, many dealers and numismatists happily label it as an unmodified Type 1b variety and value it accordingly. But the truth is not that simple. The central jewel is – or was – a privy. We just have to figure out what it was. A major clue is that the legend features a five-pointed star instead of a dot separating the D and the G. This has previously been reported only with trefoil privy Type 1b Harington farthings. Yet, the privy doesn't look like a trefoil. It is large enough to be a crescent, yet its sinister arm is missing.

After owning and studying this farthing for a few years, I have concluded that it is either a crescent with a partial grease-fill obscuring its sinister arm, or it is a trefoil that has been obscured by a significant die break. Either is equally likely. However, if it's a crescent privy, it would be the first recorded specimen pairing a star in the legend between D and G. This is possible but seems less likely than a die break obscuring a trefoil. As I said before, this farthing could be the poster child for misattribution. I bought it as an unmodified specimen but quickly realized that it really did come from the factory with a privy. I just couldn't identify which one.

All small flan Harington farthings are rare and desirable regardless of their privy. Nice examples that aren't corroded are really hard to find, and the Type 1b's are even more difficult to find with clear privies. Consequently, many collectors perpetuate the notion that some of them were minted sans privy. It's not true, but it has resulted in demand for the so-called "unmodified" varieties.

## MINTING PROBLEMS

In addition to design problems, patent farthing privies suffered further indignities from the minting process itself. Die breaks, grease-fills, and clipped flans all took their toll in terms of either preventing fine detail from striking up fully, or completely obscuring the privy.

### Die Breaks

Patent farthings were made using roller presses. Each roller contained multiple images, perhaps as many as eight. Given how expensive die steel was, and how much effort went into engraving the set of die images on any given roller die, it's not surprising to find evidence that Token House workers ran each die set for as long as they possibly could. Die breaks could affect a privy mark in two different ways. First, a break could have occurred in the region containing the privy mark, causing it to spall away. Second, a break on the opposite side could have caused a Blakeslee Effect to obscure the privy mark.

The following figures show a Lennox Type 4 farthing with a small but strategically located die break. The break directly impacted the privy but appears to have left some portions of its outer edges discernible. The privy mark on this type is located at 12 o'clock on the obverse, just preceding IACO.

Figure 8: An Unfortunately-Located Die Break

This farthing has survived the centuries in great shape. It's possible that someday it can be positively identified by identifying other diagnostic features and matching them with other farthings of the same type. For now, it remains a tantalizing mystery with little collector value.

Die breaks weren't always as surgically precise in their effect. The next figure shows a significantly larger die break and commensurate Blakeslee Effect that, when combined with a little circulation wear, makes it difficult to identify the privy. The die break occurred on the reverse die from 10 to 12 o'clock. The privy is located at 1 o'clock on the reverse, just preceding FRA in the legend. The die break was large enough to soften every feature on both sides of the coin. Fortunately, this example has enough detail left, despite its sad origin, to identify it as a mullet privy. Had this farthing circulated more, or suffered environmental damage, the combination would have been enough to forever prevent attribution.

Figure 9:
A Die Break, Blakeslee Effect, and Circulation Wear Conspire Against the Privy

## Grease fill

It appears that the token houses prepared their roller die sets in batches and greased them for storage until needed as grease-filled errors certainly occurred with some regularity. Equally common are the surface pimples caused by use of a rusted die. The farthing shown in Figure 10 was made from a die that apparently wasn't well-made nor properly degreased prior to use. The die broke at 8-9 o'clock on the obverse but that break isn't large enough to have

caused all the other he details to not transfer from the die to the farthing[3]. The loss of detail doesn't appear to be the result of circulation wear either, as some of the highest parts of the design are the most prominent on the farthing. The only logical explanation is it was made from a die that was still partially coated in grease.

The privy's vague outline can be seen at 12 o'clock on the obverse, but little obverse detail was struck up. This outline suggests it is the Rose privy, but not enough detail remains to confirm.

Figure 10: Grease-filled die obscures the privy

## Repunched Privy

Another subtle way that the shape of a privy mark could have been impaired was if it was repunched on the die. Features are commonly seen repunched throughout the patent farthing series as dies were freshened up and pressed back into service. It's much less common to find a privy mark repunched, but such errors could and did occur. Figure 11 shows a Harington Type 1a farthing with a B privy that was repunched. When I purchased it, the seller described it as a millrind privy due to this error. Careful inspection under magnification reveals that it's truly a B privy, but the first punch was rotated clockwise 90 degrees, so the B appears to be lying on its belly. The diesinker attempted to repunch the privy with the correct orientation but failed to strike it squarely and just made it messier.

Figure 11:
A repunched privy can be hard to identify

[3] I have another Lennox Type 3 farthing in my collection that features an approximate 40% die break on the obverse, yet the remaining features are quite clear. Even the reverse shows great detail, aside from the areas directly opposite the impacted regions.

Off-center Cut-outs

Farthings were frequently punched out off-center. The farthing is still completely circular, but the designs are not centered within that circle. Sometimes this was caused by the obverse and reverse rollers being misaligned, but sometimes it was just an error by the person punching the farthings out of the fillet. The following set of figures show just such an error. The error obscures details on the top of the reverse that could positively attribute this as being either a Lennox Type 2 (with privy marks on both sides) or a Lennox Type 3 Everson #(with a privy mark just on the obverse). The privy is a fusil or solid diamond shape and appears at 12 o'clock where expected on the obverse. On the reverse of a Lennox Type 2, a second matching privy would appear at 11 o'clock in the legend. The farthing is sufficiently off-center as to show something in that position, but not enough to discern if it's a stop or a second fusil.

Figure 12:
An off-center cut destroys crucial details

Looking closely at this particular farthing, you can see a straight clip at 12 o'clock. The mintworker punching out farthings from the rolled fillets likely centered his punch on the fillet rather than on the pressed design. Otherwise, the farthing would have been grossly underweight.

Curved clips aren't a material threat to privy marks in the Harington and Lennox issues as the die images were oriented side-by-side on the roller dies. Thus, curved clips tend to occur at the 3 and 9 o'clock positions while the privy marks were installed elsewhere.

## POST-MINTING PROBLEMS

There were many other conditions that affected privy marks that were more universal. Such factors included minting issues, circulation wear and environmental damage.

Environmental Damage

Time has not been kind to patent farthings. They are about 400 years old, paper thin, and made from highly reactive metals. If you think about it, it's miraculous that any have survived the ravages of time without suffering some environmental damage. Although no single patent farthing type holds a monopoly on environmental damage, the issue that suffers the most are the tin-coated small flan Haringtons. Tin oxidizes in a way that obscures both fine and coarse detail on coins. The following figure shows a Harington tin-coated Type 1a farthing.

The privy is centered between the scepter handles beneath the obverse crown – precisely where tin pest has spalled away metal and crucial detail.

Figure 13:
Tin pest obliterates the privy

The tin pest's work is complete: even extreme magnification cannot reveal enough detail to identify the privy.

Corrosion isn't limited to just tin pest. Copper is a highly unstable reactive metal that is prone to oxidation. Given their age, it's not surprising that many of the survivors have been recovered from the ground. The next figure shows a farthing with cratered surfaces earned during its time underground. The corrosion makes it difficult to identify its tiny privy mark.

The farthing shown in Figure 14 can be tentatively identified as a Harington Type 1b Trefoil Everson #12) privy due to two key diagnostics:

1. The central jewel is clearly larger than a normal jewel, indicating this is a Type 1b.
2. The obverse legend features a star or mullet between the D and the G, which is only known on the Harington Type 1b Trefoil privy.

Figure 14:
Copper corrosion makes it difficult to identify the privy

Attribution is easy on this one thanks to the limited number of privy marks in this variety, and the fortuitous presence of the star in the legend. Other varieties are harder to attribute when corroded, resulting in a plentiful supply of unattributable and low-value patent farthings. You can often find rare and desirable small flan Type 1 Harington farthings for sale cheaply simply because the privy is not clear. For the intrepid, or the type collector, such a farthing is an opportunity to fill a hole inexpensively.

## Circulation Wear

Hard currency was in short supply, and the patent farthings (with the exception of the small flan Harington farthings) circulated heavily. Figure 15 shows an unusual Harington Type 1b patent farthing with significant circulation wear. Under extreme magnification, it becomes clear that the central jewel on the crown's band is really a mullet – a five-pointed star. All 5 arms are faint but still visible.

Figure 15:
Circulation wear makes it difficult to identify the privy

## Copper Thieves

It was quite common for people to clip a little metal off coins they received in change. Over time, these minute amounts of metal accumulated to the point where the clipper could sell them to a brazier. The more ambitious of the coin clippers may have even made their own counterfeit versions of the farthings they were clipping. The motive was simple: patent farthings could be a profitable venture! In the 1610s, a shilling bought a pound of refined sheet copper. That may sound expensive, but a pound of copper could make 16 shillings worth farthings depending on weight and assuming no waste[4].

The trick was not clipping so much as to be obvious, but greed isn't rational. The patent farthing shown in Figure 16 is a Lennox Type 3 with a Grapes or Turtle privy (collectors use both names to describe this privy as no one can really tell what it was supposed to signify), but the coin clippers have really had their way with it. A straight clip was made from 7 to 8 o'clock on the obverse and numerous smaller clips form a scalloped edge 9 o'clock to 1 o'clock on the obverse. Although straight clips were extremely common with roller-pressed farthings, straight clips from the minting process would have occurred at 12 o'clock, 3 o'clock, 6 o'clock or 9 o'clock. This clip appears at a position that precludes it from having been a mint error. All this clipping has completely removed much of the dentil border, letters and even half the privy mark. Despite this, the farthing circulated heavily as evidenced by its heavily worn state.

[4] Peck, Page 324 lists a potential mintage of 20 to 24 shillings worth of farthings, but at an average weight of nine grains per farthing, four farthings per pence, 12 pence per shilling I calculate a maximum of 16 shillings worth of farthings per pound of copper. That still represents a significant potential return on one's investment, especially if one didn't have to purchase refined sheet copper.

Figure 16:
Clipping Metal Can Also Damage Privy Marks

Clipping farthings was risky business! A Royal Proclamation dated 26 October 1615 forbade marking, defacing, boring or clipping patent farthings. Any such mutilated pieces were deemed demonetized and should cease being exchanged in commercial transactions. Unfortunately, this well-intended proclamation seemed ignorant of the fact that many patent farthings issued by the Lennox Token House suffered straight clips as a result of their manufacturing process. Thus, it would be virtually impossible to determine which coins were clipped and which were made that way. Nevertheless, would-be counterfeiters who "mined" copper from patent farthings in circulation ran the risk of completely demonetizing the farthings they were scavenging.

This farthing is mute testimony to the ineffectiveness of the Royal Decree. Clearly, it should have bee demonetized by virtue of having been cut so many times yet it continued to circulate.

Broken Puncheon

An extremely unusual type of error that could impair a privy was if it was made from a broken puncheon.

**WHAT IS IT?**

Another significant issue clouding the identification of privy marks are probably the most counter-intuitive and ironic. Privy marks were specifically intended to be a secret mark on a coin that could deter counterfeits by making it easy to identify authentic farthings. Unfortunately, so many were used, and even more used by contemporary forgers of patent farthings, that they only created confusion amongst the populace who used them, as well as numismatists ever since.

Noted 19th Century numismatist Fleet Surgeon A. E. Weightman first observed that uncertainty over the authenticity of any given privy mark may have been a contributing factor to numismatists shunning patent farthings. Indeed, some of the privy marks he identified as authentic Regal issues have since been dismissed as false privies that were the work of forgers. The opposite is also true: privies he either didn't know about, or didn't think were Regal, have since become accepted as such. Quite simply, there are so many different privies yet so few of them extant in high grade, that most collectors haven't seen a nice example of each.

In the absence of an authoritative guide to privy marks, numismatists have settled for illustrations to guide privy identification. Unfortunately, these illustrations may not be accurate, or even based on real farthings. Consequently, even privies that may be clear enough

to identify don't always match otherwise reliable reference sources. This inconsistency can be quite frustrating.

A great example of this is the millrind privy. A millrind is an iron fastening device that held a millstone onto a drive axle. As such, it was a familiar and useful device to millers, wheat farmers, and anyone who purchased flour from a mill. In English Heraldry, the millrind was used to signify financial success in the operation of a mill. It was also used to denote someone with strong, positive judgment who could keep others on a course that was straight and true. For example, a local constable or judge. Thus, a millrind was a strong and positive symbol that people could readily understand. Unfortunately, there was no standards organization dictating the size and shape of a millrind. Each mill was unique, and each millrind custom-made so no two millrinds were alike. Similar, but not identical. That inconsistency is problematic when one tries to retroactively identify potential millrind symbols on worn and corroded farthings.

As appealing as the idea of a millrind privy may be, it was NOT a privy used by the Harington or Lennox token houses. Despite this, you can find on-line reference sources and even published books that illustrate a millrind privy attributed to them. Most tellingly, none show photographs of an actual millrind privy. The millrind has become a bit of a catch-all used to describe any impaired or non-conforming privy shape in the Harington Type 1a series. Patent farthing specialists, however, know that all small flan Harington patent farthings were made with a 180° die axis except for the so-called millrind privy which was made with a 0° die axis. I have only found two farthings with a 0° die axis. The clearest example proved to be an S privy with its lower half obscured by a die break. The top curl of the S was quite clear yet its unique die axis "confirmed" it was a so-called millrind privy Type 1a Harington. The truth is the exceptionally rare S privy Harington was made with both 0° and 180° die axes.

Another problem is caused when there is a genuine lack of consensus as to what any given shape was intended to signify. If you don't know what a privy signifies, you can't be sure of its original intended shape. If you don't know what it's supposed to look like, then an impaired shape is harder to decipher. There are numerous examples of privies that don't quite match the shape ascribed to them by numismatists. Previously, I mentioned the crescent and the millrind, but there are other confusing examples too.

One such example was a privy used by Lennox that historically was described as grapes (in the European sense: a cluster or bunch of grapes) but a new generation of collectors has taken to calling it a turtle. The truth is that even on pristine examples it's not very clear. People will see what they want to see! Figure 17 shows you this privy at 12 o'clock on the obverse of a specimen that remains virtually as struck with traces of mint red remaining. I think it's a bunch of grapes, but even at its best this privy is indistinct. Heraldry offers no help as both turtles and grapes are valid icons with positive meanings.

Figure 17: Is it a turtle or bunch of grapes?

Another great example of confusion surrounding privies can be seen in the woolpack privy. This was a privy used twice: once by Lennox and again by Richmond. The Lennox issue is extremely rare, and seldom found in decent condition whereas the Richmond woolpack privy

is common, and easily found in higher grades of preservation. This has led to a general assumption that the privy used by the two token houses was the same shape.

The woolpack is a symbol of commerce (much like the tun and millrind) and is supposed to be a large burlap sack filled with wool for transport. The Richmond woolpack privy features four convex sides and corners that are tufted nubs that protrude slightly. Richmond's woolpack is oriented horizontally – it's longer than it is tall. Figure 18 shows a Richmond patent farthing with a woolpack privy.

Figure 18:
The Richmond woolpack privy

If you can locate a Lennox patent farthing with the woolpack privy – or even just a picture of one – you'll notice it is obviously different. Cruder. Figure 19 shows a close-up of the Lennox "woolpack" privy. If you carefully examine the Lennox "woolpack" you'll see it features a smaller, rounder body with tassels instead of nubs at the corners. It's also oriented vertically – it's taller than it is long. Medieval Heraldry includes a symbol that matches the privy used by Lennox but it's not a woolpack. It's a cushion. I'll apologize in advance for the poor quality of Figure 19. It truly is the best I could do with the condition of the coin. This poor example is literally the best I've ever seen for sale in more than a decade of collecting.

Figure 19: The Lennox "woolpack" privy – really a cushion!

A cushion was a symbol of wealth and privilege; not everyone could afford a pillow! Cushions were decorative as well as functional, typically made of a fine fabric stuffed with wool. Its corners were extremely decorative, featuring tasseled corners. The token houses tended to follow the privy marks used by the Tower Mint, but not always. Typically, the privy marks were heraldic symbols, but the marks indicating virtuous personal traits were favored over those signifying wealth and power. Given the low value of this denomination, this bias shouldn't be surprising.

I believe the Lennox privy mark was the product of an imaginative diesinker: it appears to have been made by punching a roundel atop a pair of engraved intersecting lines. Thus, it's shape could have been dictated by expedience rather than deliberate design. Regardless of how this symbol was made, the cushion/woolpack privy is a marvelous example of how assumptions often masquerade as facts in the patent farthing series. If you look for a Lennox farthing that matches the woolpack privy used by the Richmond token house, you'll never find one.

## A BROKEN PUNCHEON

Perhaps the most unusual type of error that affects privy marks is one in which the privy itself was made with a broken puncheon. I have found exactly ONE such example. It appears, based on my limited die studies, that a privy mark puncheon was only used on a single roller die. Thus, its service life would have been perhaps ten punches into the roller die. Given such a limited service life, it's amazing that any privy puncheon would fail before completing its mission. After all, it's easy to see other puncheons, such as the crown's end-crosses, get used hundreds of times before failing.

The baronial coronet was quite different from most other puncheons in that it was both thin and wide. Wide features were not easy to impart to a radiused steel surface, so the token houses tended to use smaller or narrower devices as privy marks. The coronet was also quite thin, which seems to have accelerated work-hardening of the puncheon's steel. Figure 20 shows a Lennox farthing made from a die that was sunk using a broken privy puncheon.

Figure 20:
The Broken Coronet privy

It's easy to see that the missing piece of the coronet was not caused by grease or other debris clogging the die as the die-sinker indexed the spacing of the letters off where the privy ended, rather than off where the privy should have ended. In simpler terms, there is no room for the rest of the coronet so the puncheon must have broken before being used on this die.

This error has not been previously catalogued or even recognized by patent farthing collectors. I'd be shocked if this was the only extant example, especially since the coronet privy roller die was one of the last used during the reign of King James I. IACO was repunched as CARO upon the coronation of King Charles I. It's impossible to know how many examples of each were minted, but the Richmond (CARO) examples are quite common whereas the Lennox coronet privy farthings are quite scarce. Logic fairly dictates that there are more broken coronet farthings waiting to be found, especially Richmond farthings.

## CONCLUSION

To paraphrase Sir Isaac Newton, numismatists see further by standing on the shoulders of the giants that preceded them. But you must educate yourself as to the limits of their knowledge. Nowhere is this truer than with patent farthings. Patent farthings have been unloved for centuries, first by the people on whom they were inflicted, and subsequently by numismatists. They are tiny, hard to see, and harder to find in decent condition. On top of all that, privy marks – the single most important key to their attribution – are frequently found impaired by any one of a seemingly endless array of causes described and photographed throughout this article. One could argue that detracts from their desirability. Personally, I think that adds to their charm!

# SWORD IN HAND, IN DEFENSE OF AMERICAN LIBERTY?

(Will Nipper)

Few, if any, denizens of our early American numismatic universe are more historic or iconic than Massachusetts' "Sword in Hand" notes. Directly from the hand of Boston's Paul Revere, each emblazoned with a defiant, sword-wielding minuteman and with dates that bracket our Declaration of Independence, they irrefutably embody the American Revolution.

These were bills of credit, authorized in four distinct issues that witnessed an extraordinary period in American history. Just four months before the first issue, war began in nearby Lexington. Three weeks later the Second Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia on the same day that Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold took Ft. Ticonderoga and its celebrated guns, guns that would be instrumental in Boston's liberation. Two months later came the bloodbath on Breed's Hill in Boston's back yard, and the fateful appointment of Virginia's George Washington as Commander of the Continental Army. The second issue came near the end of 1775, after Americans took Montreal and were on their way to Quebec. In the summer of '76 the Founders formally declared independence and, in the fall, two days after the British flag ascended over New York City, Revere printed the third issue. And, scarcely a month after the fourth and final issue, America's sinking fortunes turned on a fabled nighttime crossing of the Delaware River…A pivotal time, indeed.

| Authorization Date | Authorized Amount | Denominations | Issuer (Face) | Scroll (Back) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aug. 18, 1775 | £100,000 | 1s 2s 2s6d 4s 5s 6s 7s 6d 8s 10s 11s 12s 17s 20s 24s 30s* 40s | Colony of Massachusetts Bay | MAGNA CHARTA |
| Dec. 7, 1775 | £75,000 | 8d 1s4d 1s6d 2s8d 3s 3s4d 4s6d 7s 10s 14s 16s 22s 28s 36s* 42s* 48s | | |
| Sep. 17, 1776 | £50,004 | 10s 14s 16s 22s 28s 36s* 42s 48s | State of Massachusetts Bay | |
| Nov. 17, 1776 | £70,038 | 10s 14s 16s 22s 28s 36s 42s 48s* | | INDEPENDANCE |

* Contemporary counterfeits are known.

The face designs are interesting enough, always featuring an ornamental border on all but the bottom side and a lower-left oval vignette that has variations of a ship sailing, one docked at a wharf and, on the 1-shilling denomination, a tree. The two 1775 issues are by [The] "Colony of Massachusetts Bay," while the two 1776 issues use the updated version "State of Massachusetts Bay." The first issue was to be spread across three redemption dates, August 18, in 1778, 1779 and 1780. Some early printings erroneously had the redemption date as August 18, 1777 and some were printed with an inverted plate, resulting in notes with two denominations. Some of the errant dates were corrected by hand before the plate was fixed. The original intent was for every note to bear three signatures, each in a different color. It appears, however, that signers were hard to assemble, and the rule was relaxed to two signers, then, on small-denomination notes, one signer.

The truly compelling design features are found on the backs. The central figure is that of an American minuteman, brandishing a sword in his right hand and a document in his left.

On the first three issues, his document reads MAGNA CHARTA, calling to mind King John's 1215 proclamation on the rights of Englishmen. On the fourth, the document reads INDEPENDANCE, a misspelling that Revere is known to have repeated elsewhere.

Wrapped around the minuteman are the words "Issued in defense of American Liberty" and Massachusetts' newly approved motto, *Ense petit placidam sub Libertate Quietem*, interpreted to mean "[By raising his sword,] he seeks peace, [but only peace] under tranquil Liberty."

Several related Revere invoices and other documents survive, as do some of his original copper plates. The documents, plates and notes reveal that Revere did everything he could to amend and reuse work that he had already done – rather than make new plates for new dates, new denominations or to change MAGNA CHARTA into INDEPENDANCE. At least one such plate was reused on another, non-monetary print project. Accordingly, the cost of labor for reworking a plate was less than for making one from scratch.

The "Sword in Hand" series is no stranger to counterfeiting. Having the same basic design on all four issues and all sixteen denominations doubtless made them vulnerable. Every issue had at least one counterfeited denomination. The December 7, 1775 issue is known to have had two.

Many, if not most, American coins and medals of the period are shrouded in some degree of mystery around the "who, what, when and where" of their origins. Such is not usually the case with legitimate paper money. For one thing, it was common practice for a government to designate an official printer, as in this case. And, many issues bore the printer's name(s) on their backs. For example, it is hard to debate the origins of a legitimate note whose back reads PRINTED BY B. FRANKLIN AND D. HALL.

Even the sources of a few counterfeits are known. Much is written on the counterfeiting of continental currency aboard British ships anchored in New York Harbor. Advertisements were brazenly posted in the *New York Gazette*, April 14, 1777, asking Loyalist sympathizers to help distribute the phony paper.[1] The highest levels of Britain's military were well aware of these efforts and condoned them, but scholars disagree as to whether those carrying them out were officially directed to do so from above. Nevertheless, this is a stellar example of counterfeiting to achieve a political objective: Wide-scale destabilization of America's economy, thus making unsustainable its ability to wage war.

A second reason for counterfeiting is far more basic and far more localized: Profit for the counterfeiter(s) and their distribution accomplices. In these cases, the guilty, if they are lucky, remain anonymous. Some instances of counterfeit Massachusetts' Sword in Hand notes exist to pursue political objectives, while others seem to follow more along the lines of seeking personal profit.

[1] McBurney, Christian M., *Spies in Revolutionary Rhode Island*, The History Press, Charleston, SC, 2014, pp. 24-25.

No 7416
Colony of the Massachusetts Bay
Augt 18 1775.
The Possessor of this Bill shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Colony Two Shillings Lawfull Money by the 18 Day of Augt 1779 which Bill shall be receivd for the aforesaid Sum in all payments at the Treasury and in all other payments by order of the General Assembly
Committee
J Cushing
TWO SHILLINGS
Issued in defence of American Liberty
Exit pelit placidam sub Libertate Quietem.
Augt 18, 1775.

Two shillings ($1/3) "lawfull money," Aug. 18, 1775. Its small denomination, late redemption date (Aug. 18, 1779) and vertical centering of J[ohn] Cushing's signature suggest printing after the relaxation of the three- and two-signature rules for small denominations. Face: "Colony of the Massachusetts Bay" / ship at dock. Back: Magna Charta. Author's collection. Photo courtesy of Heritage Auctions, HA.com.

48
1014
STATE of the Massachusetts Bay
Nov 17 1776
The Possessor of this Bill shall be paid by the Treasurer of this State, Fortyeight shillings Lawfull Money, by the Seventh Day of December 1781, which Bill shall be received for the aforesaid Sum in all payments at the Treasury, and in all other payments by order of the General Assembly.
Committee
I. Goodwin
48
FORTYEIGHT SHILLINGS.
Issued in defence of American Liberty
Exit pelit placidam sub Libertate Quietem.
Novem 17 1776.
counterfeit

Contemporary counterfeit 48 shillings ($8,) not so lawful money, Nov. 17, 1776. Ostensibly redeemable Dec. 17, 1781. Face: "State of the Massachusetts Bay" / unrigged ship. Back: [Declaration of] Independance [sic.] Forged signatures: [I]chabod Goodwin and a second frustratingly just beyond readability. Note handwritten marking "Counterfeit." Author's collection.

First, the profit model…In 1882, Thomas A. Dickinson recounted the life of Eleazer Smith, from a manuscript that Smith had written around 1828. Smith was convicted of counterfeiting in 1776. As we learn, however, Smith's alleged crime was not that of printing counterfeits, but of altering a genuine note. It further appears that he was, in fact, more victim than perpetrator. Smith was a bright young man, possessing knowledge of astronomy, botany, chemistry and even some types of surgery. He was very mechanically gifted. As an adult he invented a manufacturing process for cotton combs that brought prosperity to his region of Massachusetts. At the age of fifteen he built a very accurate watch and repaired others with nothing more than a pen knife. In the summer of '76, at twenty-one or -two and believing in the patriot cause, he answered the recruiting call for Fort Ticonderoga, where he arrived in August after a long march and with a case of dysentery. Years later, in a style reminiscent of Joseph Plumb Martin's, Smith wrote:

> *On the 14th of September I was arrested and put under guard for passing bad money, the bill being so large as 40 shillings, 'Sword in Hand' 'Massachusetts,' that I did not pass it before, and had forgotten where I had taken it. While in prison the same fellow who had given me the bill was brought in for a like crime. In a moment it brought to mind the circumstances of my taking the bill of this man, who tended store for one Jones who lived below the fort. When brought before the court martial, they asked me if I knew it was a counterfeit bill? I told them yes, but did not know it when I passed it. On holding it to the light they showed me that it had been scraped out '4 and 6 pence' and made it into '40 shillings.' I told them of the man I had taken it of, whose name was Amos Tonsley, then under guard.*[2]

Tonsley refused to back Smith's story, which led to his conviction. Smith had seemed a likely suspect given his dexterity with delicate tools. A lieutenant suggested that an admission of guilt would lead to a lighter sentence. Smith countered that he would rather die for his innocence than own a lie, a noble sentiment, *i.e.*, assuming Smith is accurately recounting the story. Fortunately, his colonel, who had known young Smith his entire life, interceded and vouched for his character and, within fifteen days, he was restored to his former position.[3] (Note that only the December 7, 1775 issue featured the 4s6d denomination.)

The following excerpt introduces a more nefarious and treasonous example of counterfeiting. In Rhode Island's official records from February 1784, we find:

> *Whereas, there is in the hands of His Excellency the Governor* [William Greene] *a considerable sum of the Massachusetts Sword-in-hand money (so called) which is counterfeit; a part whereof was uttered and passed by John Hart and Sarah Slocum, in the year 1777, together with some other papers, now of no use, - It is therefore voted and resolved, that the Hon. Jabez Bowen, Esq., and Welcome Arnold, Esq., be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to receive the said bills and papers; that they make out a list,*

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[2] Dickinson, Thomas A., "Sketch of the life of Eleazer Smith, the Inventor of the Card-Setting Machine, from a manuscript written by himself, about the year 1828," *Proceedings of the Worcester Society of Antiquity for the year 1881*, Vol. 5, Worcester, MA, Worcester Historical Society, 1882, pp. 17-18.

[3] Dickinson, loc. cit. Interestingly, the actual counterfeiter chose a denomination that only appeared in the second issue (4s6d) and gave it a denomination (40s) that only appeared in the first issue.

*certifying from whom the said bills were received, and lodge the same in the secretary's office; and that they destroy the said bills and papers by burning the same.*[4]

## Who were John Hart and Sarah Slocum?

Hart arrived in Rhode Island in January 1777, with a letter of introduction written by William Tryon, Loyalist and former Governor of New York. Though his origins are uncertain, some evidence suggests that he was from Massachusetts. Until April 1777, he performed various clandestine services that required traveling back and forth between Newport and the mainland. In short, Hart would seem to be the counterpart to the real-life Abraham Woodhull as fictionalized in the TV series, *Turn, Washington's Spies*. McBurney says that Hart was provided with counterfeit Massachusetts Sword in Hand money to distribute to local Loyalists, including the Slocums, some of whom are known to have accompanied Hart on missions. McBurney notes that one purpose for the distribution was to allow Loyalists to pay their taxes.[5] This is interesting for a couple of reasons: It illustrates that Massachusetts money was readily accepted in Rhode Island and it may help explain how Bowen and Arnold could make a list of those who had passed the counterfeits in Governor Greene's possession seven years later.

Hart's plans grew bolder, eventually including a failed plot to kidnap key members of Rhode Island's assembly. He soon attracted the attention of General Washington. When news of his plans leaked, a manhunt ensued. Town by town, Loyalists were interrogated until Hart was located. A plan to evacuate him aboard *HMS Orpheus* failed when the landing party was spotted and fired upon, leaving Hart to fend for himself. He was captured on the next day, May 13. On Friday, May 16 the decision was made to try him in a military court, as a spy. He admitted to distributing the counterfeits, but apparently not to making them. The next day he was convicted of spying and hanged, espousing the Loyalist cause to the end. That he was tried as a spy and not as a mere counterfeiter led to his demise.[6]

Sarah Slocum was somewhat more fortunate. She, her husband, Charles, and their ten children ran a farm in North Kimpton, RI – Along with 230 sheep, cattle, hogs, horses and oxen. Her son, Ebenezer, was a spy who delivered intelligence and supplies to the British military. When a mob came to arrest Ebenezer, Charles stood in the doorway to stop them and was shot dead. Sarah was charged with counterfeiting patriot money. Her punishment was to stand in a pillory for half an hour and to have her earlobes cut off as a public sign of her crime. The Slocum farm and animals were seized, and the family forced to move inland. Ebenezer joined the British army in 1778 and settled in New Brunswick, Canada, after the war.[7]

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[4] Bartlett, John Russell and Rhode Island, *Records of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, in New England. Printed by Order of the General Assembly*, Providence, A. C. Greene and Brother, state printers, p.82. Entry for the last day of February 1784.

[5] McBurney, pp. 23-29.

[6] McBurney, *loc. cit.*

[7] Davidson, Stephen, "While (Loyalist) Shepherds Watched Their Flocks," *United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC) Newsletter*, Vol. 48, 2013, December 22, 2013, at http://www.uelac.org/Loyalist-Trails/2013/Loyalist-Trails-2013.php?issue=201348, Accessed April 1, 2020.

It seems unlikely that the Slocums were running a print shop down on the farm. Some of the known counterfeits must have been produced in significant numbers given population extant. So, did Sarah Slocum's offense involve making counterfeit money or simply passing it? If she did not print it, then who did? And at whose direction was the plan executed? Was there a chain of evidence that linked John Hart and Sarah Slocum directly to the counterfeits in Governor Greene's possession, or were they just the "usual suspects" who were scapegoated? What issue dates and denominations were involved?

Newman pointed out that the plate for the counterfeit 42-shillings of December 7, 1775 was found and remains in Montrose, Scotland.[8] While the plate could have travelled anywhere over the last couple of centuries, its presence in Scotland at least hints at the possible origins of its maker. That there remain mysteries surrounding the counterfeits these centuries later is a testament to the ingenuity of the criminals and spies who made them.

In conclusion, whether genuine or counterfeit, the "Sword in Hand" design is as emblematic of the American Revolution as it gets. Two other paper issues are worthy of mention as well. The first is Massachusetts issue printed in Boston by Benjamin Edes and dated June 18, 1776. Denominations of 6 shillings and higher feature a smaller vignette, this time on the faces, depicting the Sword in Hand motif. Accordingly, they are referred to as "Small Sword in Hand" notes. Recall that Edes was the co-publisher of the *Boston Gazette*, who is often credited with instigating and financing the Boston Tea Party. The second example is a little-known, undated (1776) $8 dollar resolution note from Georgia. The style is different, but the sentiment is the same – In defense of American liberty!

Georgia's undated (1776) $8 "Sword in Hand" note. Author's collection.

[8] Newman, Eric P., *The Early Paper Money of America*, 4th ed., Iola, WI, Krause Pub., 1997, p. 205.

# C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

It's a great time to borrow a book from the C4 Library, now that many of us are under a "Stay at Home" order. Take a look at the complete listing on the C4 website. There are many lesser known and hard to get titles just waiting for your enjoyment. And while you're at it, write a summary for the *C4 Newsletter* to tell other members what you learned.

Below are new items acquired by the club or donated since the last C4 Library Update. They are now available for loan by all C4 and EAC members in good standing. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org. Thank You to all who have donated items.

Thank You to those who have checked their old copies of auction catalogs and donated them to the library. There's still room for more. The Library is interested in getting copies of past auction catalogs that we currently do not have. Take a look at the list shown on the club website. Any that are not already in the library are greatly appreciated. Remember, all catalogs that have at least one Colonial will have the colonial section separated and added to the library archive. Catalogs with major colonial content will be retained in their entirety. Thanks!

**Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:**

Issac, Dale, *Binder of Pictures taken at the 25-28 October 2018 C4 Convention, Also Pictures by Dale on side trips in the area including Metal Detecting in Southern NJ and a Trip to Coin Beach Delaware* - Donated by Dale Isaac

Moore, Roger Addison M.D., *The Coins of Colonial Virginia,* The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2019 - Donated by Roger Moore

Bowers, Q. David, *Whitman Encyclopedia of Colonial and Early American Coins,* Whitman Publishing LLC, Atlanta GA, 2009 – Donated by Whitman Publishing

The Numismatist, Publication of the American Numismatic Association, Complete set of 1947 and 1949 and a partial set of 1975 newsletters– Donated by Rich Ippolito

Daniel Frank Sedwick, *Treasure and World & US Coin and Paper Money Auction 26,* 1-2 November 2019, Orlando FL –Donated by Daniel Sedwick

Siboni, Roger, *James II 1/24 Real Plantation Farthings – Attribution Guide and Plate,* Distributed as part of a Presentation at the 25th Annual C4 Convention, 14-17 November 2019, Baltimore MD – Donated by Jack Howes

Sotheby's, *The Lawrence R. Stack Collection – Important Ancient British, Anglo Saxon and English Hammered Coins,* 22-23 April 1999, London UK – Donated by Gary Trudgen

Spingarn, Joel, *The Joel Spingarn Collection – Condor Tokens,* Self Published Fixed Price List with Extensive Photgraphs, Georgetown CT, 2001 – Donated by Gary Trudgen

Stacks, *Americana Public Auction Sale – The Hain Family Collection of Massachusetts Silver Coins,* 15 January 2002, New York NY – Donated by Gary Trudgen

Bowers and Merena, *The Cabinet of Lucien M Lariviere – Part II*, 15-17 March 2001, Baltimore MD – Donated by Gary Trudgen

Bowers and Merena, *The Montgomery Collection*, 10-11 May 1998, New York NY – Donated by Gary Trudgen

Coin Galleries, *Ancient and Modern Coins of the World and the United States – Featuring Selections from Collections of Dr. Alfred R Globus and The Historic Northampton Museum & Education Center,* 20 July 2005, New York NY – Donated by Leo Shane

Stacks Bowers, *The E Pluribus Unum Collection of New Jersey Coppers,* 15 November 2019, Baltimore MD– Donated by Stacks Bowers

Stacks Bowers, *The E Horatio Morgan, Claudia St John and Fairmount Collections. Also includes the C4 Annual Convention Auction,* 13-15 & 18-20 November 2019, Baltimore MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers

Stacks Bowers, *The Robert M. Martin Collection of United States Colonial Coins* 15 & 18 November 2019, Baltimore MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers

Stacks Bowers, *Washingtonia from the Collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Featuring the Collection of William Spohn Baker,*
16 & 18 November 2019, Baltimore MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers

Stacks Bowers, *Comitia Americana and Related Medals – The John W. Adams Collection,* 14 November 2019, Baltimore MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers

Stacks Bowers, *Rarities Night – The November 2019 Baltimore Auction,* 14 November 2019, Baltimore MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers

Stacks Bowers, *The November 2019 Baltimore Auction – US Currency,* 14 & 19 November 2019, Baltimore MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers

Convention Booklet for the 25th Annual C4 Convention, 14-17 November 2019, Baltimore MD, Includes; President's Message, schedule of events and other useful convention information – Donated by Ray Williams

Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying <u>your</u> coins later. Thank You, my E Mail is Librarian@ColonialCoins.org.

# Early American Coppers

**Colonials, Half Cents, Large Cents, and Hard Times Tokens and more. EAC comprises over 1,200 knowledgeable members located throughout the United States.**

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### EAC Website

All issues of Penny-Wise, back to the first issue in the fall of 1967, are available to the world on the Newman Numismatic Portal. Issues published in the last two years are available in the "Members Only" section of the EAC website. The Members only section includes a wealth of information, video and media presentations.

### Annual EAC Convention

The EAC Convention is held in early spring. This year we will meet at the beautiful Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Michigan. Meeting sites are rotated throughout the United States. In addition, EAC holds meetings and symposiums in conjunction with major coin conventions. They are the best way for new members to become familiar with early coppers and to meet others who share similar interests.

### Region 8

Members enjoy a weekly newsletter email, consisting of submissions from other Region 8 members. Any EAC member can join Region 8.

### Copper Notes and Dark Side

Copper Notes is EAC's online community, our very own private Facebook page. All EAC members are welcome but must request an invitation. Copper Notes is not visible to the general Facebook population. Enjoy real time conversations with the experts! Dark Side is a similar format discussing counterfit Coins and anomalies.

**EAC yearly dues are $39.00. A junior membership (under 18) is available for $5.00**

## Join today by visiting www.eacs.org

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently $30.00 for Regular Membership ($40 if residing outside the United States) and $10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age; $15 is non-US resident.) They are payable on a calendar year basis… due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or $750.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to: Charlie Rohrer, C4 Treasurer; PO Box 25; Mountville, PA 17554

Thank you for paying in a timely manner… It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

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## C4 25th Anniversary Medals

A limited number of medals are still available. Individual copper medals can be purchased for $13, and silver (one ounce, .999 silver) medals can be purchased for $43, or a set containing one of each for $48. These prices include postage.

If included along with an initial order, above, additional individual copper and silver medals are $8 and $35, respectively. Additional sets can be purchased for $40 per set as long as they are included with an initial order, to save on postage.
Checks should be made payable to C4 and mailed to Charlie Rohrer, C4 treasurer, P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA, 17554.

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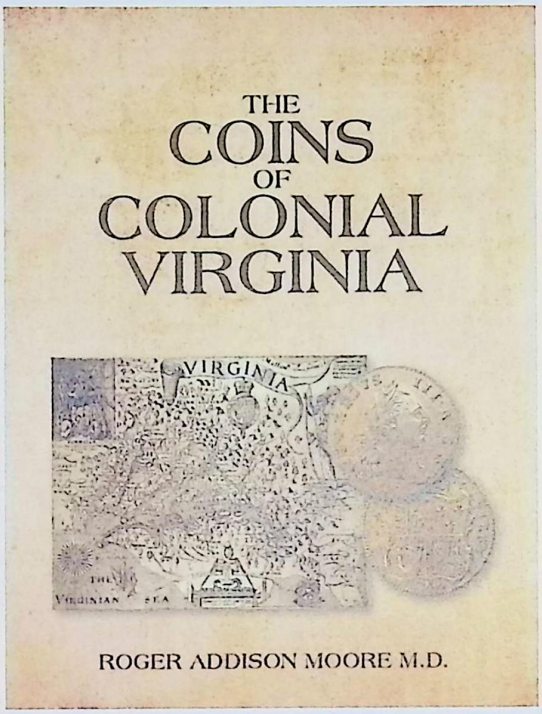
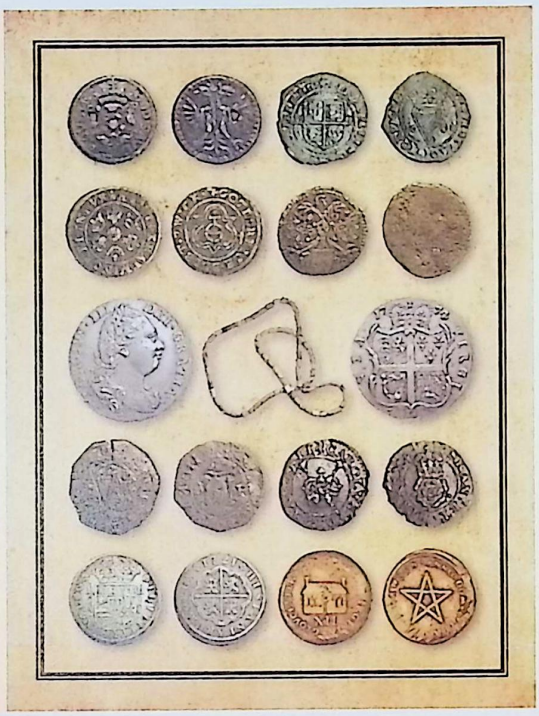
## Important Vermont Ryder-3 Study

Mark Vitunic and Jim Glickman are conducting a study of Vermont Ryder-3 specimens with planchet/striking peculiarities such as oblongness and partial doubling as described in Carlotto. This effort will hopefully lead to a C4NL article. We are asking C4 members to please email us photos + weight of ANY Ryder-3 specimen that you own or are aware of which is NOT currently listed in the HA/SB archives. Your anonymity guaranteed. Thank you! mvitunic@gmail.com, jamesglickman1@gmail.com.

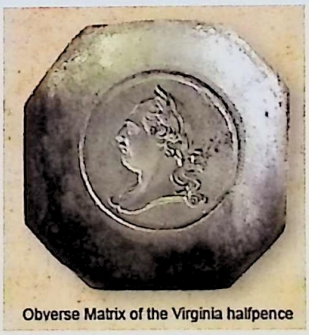
# *C4 Proudly Announces a New Book By Roger A. Moore!*



The growth and development of Virginia into one of the most important North American colonies can be traced by the economic evolution of the Dominion State as it attempted to gain the necessary hard currency needed for commerce. The history surrounding the introduction of various coinages and the use of tobacco as a commodity currency over the 150 years leading up to the final authorization of the production of Virginia halfpence in 1773 is fascinating. Equally as absorbing are the twists, turns and dead ends encountered by the Virginia colonists as they sought authorization from the English Crown for their own coinage. It is ironic that the long-desired copper Virginia halfpence finally provided to Virginia under Warrant from King George III became available to the colonists only fifty days before the beginning of the American Revolution.

In addition to exploring the historic context in which colonial Virginia struggled to obtain hard currency, methods are provided for attributing and collecting the 30 known die varieties of the 1773 copper Virginia halfpence. The book also enumerates the specifics of the Virginia halfpence metrology, rarity, and grading, as well as their numerous forgeries, facsimiles, fantasies and oddities. Virginia halfpence can be appreciated and collected in nearly uncirculated condition and are important additions to any collection of American colonial coins.


Obverse Matrix of the Virginia halfpence

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Price: $95. Available beginning at the C4 Convention, November 14-17, 2019, from Charles Davis. Orders may be placed at Post Office Box 1; Wenham, MA 01984. Telephone: (978) 468 - 2933; Fax (978) 468 - 7893; E-mail: numislit@aol.com; Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 – -5:00 EST.
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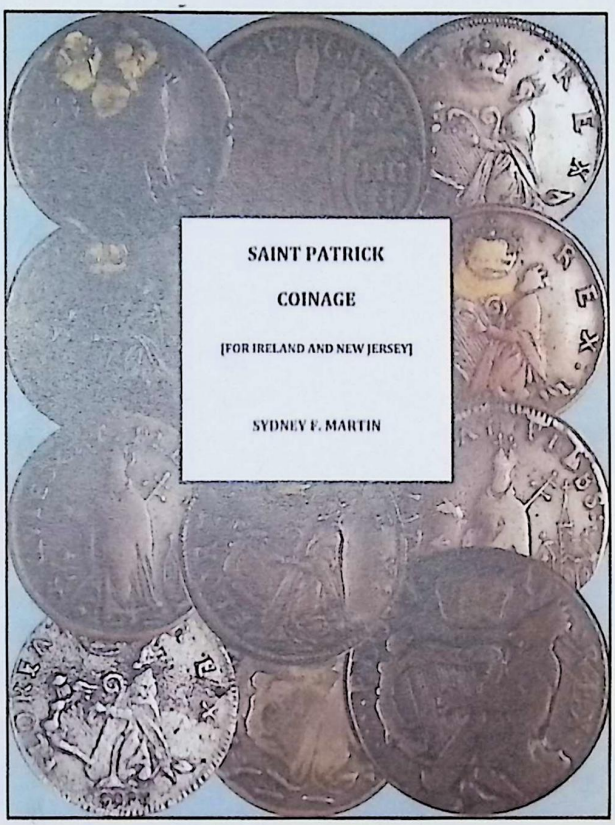
## Last Year the Colonial Coin Collectors Club Released The Definitive Book on the St. Patrick Coinage by Sydney F. Martin

Boston – May 27, 2018, The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, (C4), released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *Saint Patrick Coinage for Ireland and New Jersey*. This is the fourth book published by C4 that has been written by Syd Martin, the former editor of the *C4 Newsletter* and current President of The American Numismatic Society. His other works are *The Rosa Americana Coinage* of *William Wood*, *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*, and *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*. These books are all considered the standard references for these series today. Syd's latest work covers a series that has long vexed researchers on both sides of the Atlantic – the St. Patrick coinage. In researching this book Syd traveled to Ireland and spent many hours in the archives in New Jersey in search of clues, discovering some fascinating answers and developing several new theories regarding the coinage. This coinage has long been shrouded in mystery as to when and where it was made, and for what purpose. Syd discusses the theories that have been proposed so far, and the pros and cons of each plus some exciting new theories of his own.




According to Lou Jordan, the Curator of Numismatic Collections for the University of Notre Dame, this book is "groundbreaking!" Phil Mossman, former editor of *The Colonial Newsletter* (*CNL*), writes that "Syd has described in detail the visual imagery and icons symbolized on these coins by hand-engraved dies. A total of 197 varieties of small St. Patrick coins have been meticulously cataloged by him and presented in an easy to follow format." Mossman went on to state that "the nine varieties of large St. Patrick coppers, identified as a separate entity, are equally well presented." Christopher McDowell, editor of *CNL*, states that "this is the most important book on colonial numismatics to be published in many years. It is doubtful that this book will ever be surpassed in its coverage of the series. If you collect St. Patrick coinage or are interested in colonial numismatics, this book is a must-have."

In many ways this work is a collaborative effort, helped by many collectors who shared access to their St. Patrick collections for Syd to examine and photograph. The result is the first complete and illustrated catalogue of all known varieties in the series; unlike Syd's earlier three books, this one features color photographs. Other topics covered include the manufacturing history of the coins, literary discussion of the series, a history of their circulation in America, and a fascinating Appendix that includes what Syd calls "Miscellany." According to Phil Mossman, what

Syd calls "Miscellany" is actually "well-researched inquiries into the lineage of an elusive series." C4 is very proud to publish this book and its long association with Syd Martin.

The 528-page book is hardbound, with color illustrations throughout of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket. *Saint Patrick Coinage: For Ireland and New Jersey*, by Sydney F. Martin, is available for $95 for C4 members or $125 for nonmembers of C4, plus $7.25 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (numisbook.com,) Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933.

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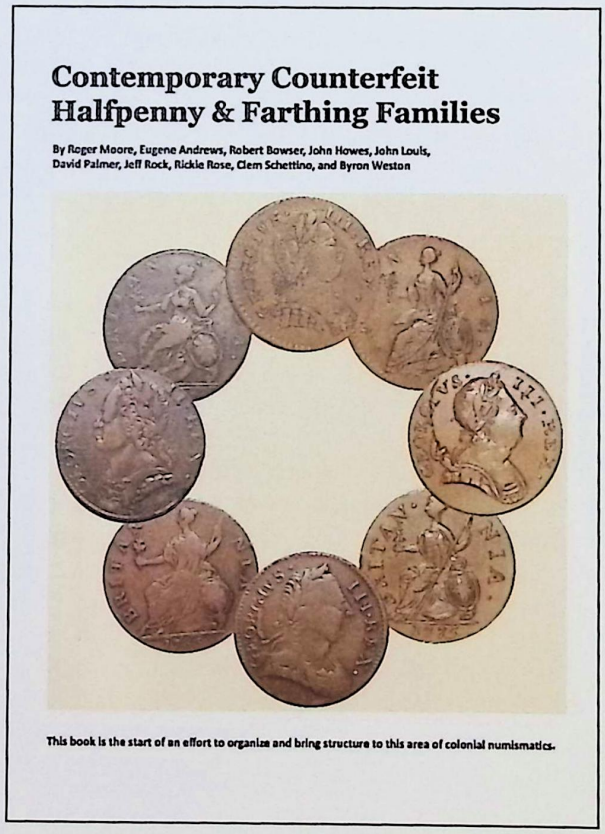
**The Colonial Coin Collectors Club announces a 2nd printing:**

## *CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT HALFPENNY AND FARTHING FAMILIES, 2nd PRINTING*

**By Roger Moore, Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis, David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston**

This monograph is the start of an effort to organize and bring structure to this area of colonial numismatics: it breaks down the vast number of different varieties into related groups called Families. A Family of contemporary counterfeits is a group of coins that likely came from the same minting operation at about the same time. Families are logical groups that share one or more of the following attributes: dies, die making punches, or similarities in the design style. This updated large format, glossy hardcover, 294 pages and profusely illustrated in color will be available in July for $54.95 from Barnes & Noble, Amazon books, and other mass market retailers. Check specifically for ISBN 978-1-64255-857-9.


Contemporary Counterfeit
Halfpenny & Farthing Families
By Roger Moore, Eugene Andrews, Robert Bowser, John Howes, John Louis,
David Palmer, Jeff Rock, Rickie Rose, Clem Schettino, and Byron Weston
This book is the start of an effort to organize and bring structure to this area of colonial numismatics.

Comments on ***Contemporary Counterfeit Halfpenny and Farthing Families***:

Jim Rosen, Past President, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.:

"Finally, a wonderful and badly needed reference book of extraordinary importance that for the first time begins the monumental task of putting order to the unorganized field of counterfeit halfpence and farthings."

*****

## FRENCH COINAGE SPECIFICALLY FOR COLONIAL AMERICA

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, C4, released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*. This is the third colonial coin book published by C4 written by Syd Martin. Other works include *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood* and *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*. The Rosa and Hibernia books are now considered standard references for those coinages and Syd's long awaited new book is expected to become the leading reference works on French Coinage minted for circulation in North America. According to Lou Jordan, the curator of numismatic col-lections for the University of Notre Dame, "Sid Martin has written the definitive catalog of French coinage authorized specifically for use in North America." Jordan went on to state that "this is an essential book for anyone interested in the French coinage of colonial North America."

"What many early American coin collectors fail to recognize," Martin said upon the book's release, "is that from the 16th century until 1763, New France included much of what is now the United States, as well as most of Canada. As such, coins minted by France for circulation in its North American colonies should be considered 'coins of the realm' in these areas." Colonial numismatic expert, John Kraljevich, went on to explain that "the history of the French in what is today the United States is largely forgotten. However, the memory of these people and their coinage has been long cherished in Canada."

Jim Rosen, president of C4, predicts that "Martin's new book will awaken an interest in both the history of the French speaking people in North American and the coins they used such as the *Gloriam Regni* coins of 1670, the 6 and 12-denier copper coins minted in 1717, and the copper 9-denier coins from 1721 and 22, all of which were struck in France specifically for circulation in the Americas."

In the book's introduction, John Kraljevich writes that, "With Crosby-like flair, Syd has marshaled together the original documents that tell the stories of these coinages. Most have never been published at all, let alone in English or all in one place. This original research guarantees this work's importance to researchers in every forthcoming generation. The heart of this book, the die studies, offers several pathways for collectors to navigate these series, by basic type, by major variety, by die combination, or even by die state. It's a project that no one has ever even attempted before, an outlier in the world of colonial numismatics, a field that has seen multiple die studies of most of the popular series. Given Syd's well-organized approach and the thousands of coins he's studied, it may be generations before this work is supplanted. It's doubtful anyone will ever do it any better."

The 480-page book is hardbound, well-illustrated throughout with photographs of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket depicting French Coinage. The book is available for $85.00 plus $7.00 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (http://www.numisbook.com/), Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933.

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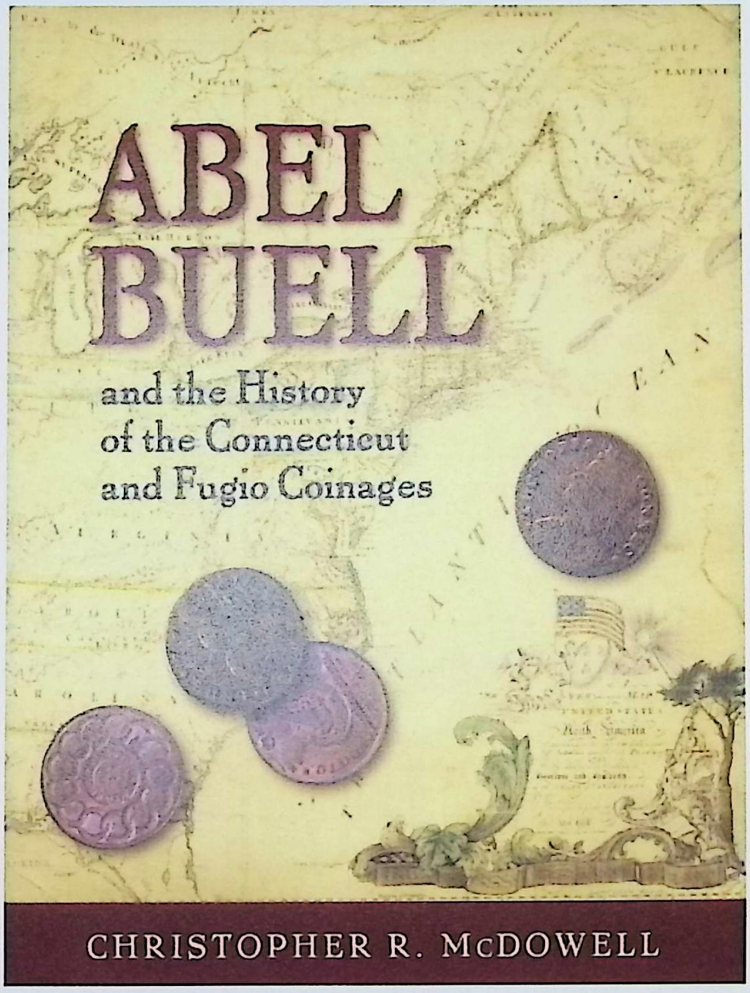
**Support the C4 Club education initiatives buy this book:**

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## C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website: www.numisbook.com.

(1) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage,* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002. Price: $10.

(2) McDowell, Christopher R., *Abel Buell and the History of the Connecticut and Fugio Coinages*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2015. Price $85.

(3) Martin, Sydney. *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2016. Price $85.

(4) Martin, Sydney. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724),* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007. Price: $50.

(5) Martin, Sydney. *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2012. Price $50.

(6) Martin, Sydney. *St. Patrick Coinage for Ireland and New Jersey*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2018. Price $95.

(7) Moore, Roger, *The Coins of Colonial Virginia*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2019, Price $95.

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## PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Jack Howes. The new provisional members are:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kurt Altman - FL | Nathaniel Fick - ME | Michael McCullough - WA |
| Gary Brosnahan - MA | Kevin Ireton - WA | Tim Mehary - VA |

*****

I am in the process of researching information pertaining to the Talbot, Allum & Lee series. I am seeking assistance from C-4 members who may have knowledge regarding the evolution of the series and the coins that were issued. I possess the basic series including all mules. If you have any unique or off metal pieces, or a half cent struck over a Talbot piece I would love to have access to them if possible.

Please contact Arnold Miniman at ahminiman@gmail.com, or (201) 317-4199.

# EAC PUBLISHES ECKBERG BOOK ON HALF CENTS

On May 1, 2019 Early American Coppers (EAC) proudly announced the publication of ***The Half Cent, 1793-1857: The Story of America's Greatest Little Coin***, by William R. Eckberg. EAC's second book, it is an important new reference on one of the first denominations coined by the United States of America.

This book tells the story of the half cent from its antecedents and models through its first release in 1793 to its end in 1857. Why did we ever have such a small denomination, anyway? Who made them? When were they made? How many are known of each variety? How are the coins graded today? All these questions and more are clearly addressed.

This hard cover book is 8½" x 11" and profusely illustrated in full color with high resolution photos. All business strike half cent obverses and reverses are illustrated by full color 3.5" photos.

Because of the way they were made, and because they were the money of the people, half cents have a charm and character that few other denominations can have, and this charm and interest come through clearly in the book.

Eckberg says he wrote the book because much new research about the coins' design, engraving and manufacture has been developed since the Cohen and Breen books of 35 years ago, and that has allowed him to correct a number of misconceptions about the series and other early coins of the U.S. Mint. This research, much of it by the author, has come from the study of early Mint documents and the coins themselves. His study of the early half cents' manufacture has provided important new insights into the operation of the early U.S. Mint and into how other denominations were created as well.

Dr. Harry E. Salyards, editor of *Penny-Wise*, the quarterly journal of EAC, writes:

> "Until now, the half cent has lacked an author able to write in an engaging conversational style while incorporating solid research evidence. As a trained scientist and lifelong teacher, Bill Eckberg is well suited to become the first to do so. Among the literature of early American copper as a whole, we have had homey narratives littered with pseudoscience, and *ex-cathedra* pronouncements aplenty. We have also had way too much 'history' written in the past subjunctive: narratives introducing each unsupported assertion with a phrase such as, 'Surely there would have been. . .'
>
> "You will find none of that sort of thing here. What you will find is the voice of an enthusiastic collector who has made some unexpected discoveries over the course of his thirty years' pursuit of the American half cent—a fascinating and still underappreciated series."

Every collection of U.S. coins should contain at least a few half cents. Scarcer *as a denomination* than the key Lincoln cent, the 1909-S VDB, they are truly rare coins. Yet, most half cents are remarkably affordable to the average collector. A U.S. series that is both rare and affordable? Yes! Still, most collectors only know them as type coins, if at all. This book will

serve as an interesting and informative introduction to the series for those who are unfamiliar with it and will provide enough new knowledge to satisfy even the most advanced specialists.

The book is available from http://halfcentbook.com. The cover price is $125, but members of EAC, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Numismatic Bibliomania Society and the American Numismatic Association may order it for $95 plus shipping. For quantities of 10 or more, please contact halfcent@icloud.com.

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## THE C4 NEWSLETTER IS ON THE NEWMAN NUMISMATIC PORTAL!

Past issues of The C4 Newsletter, and a plethora of other important numismatic resources are now available online, through The Newman Numismatic Portal, at:

www.archive.org/details/newmannumismatic

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## RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Our C4 Newsletter now has an index available on our website at www.colonialcoins.org. There are two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at njraywms@optonline.net or call.

*****

## COMPLETE C4 NEWSLETTER CDs FOR SALE

C4 is making available on CD of a complete set of *C4 Newsletters* from 1993 (vol.1, no.1) through 2011 (vol.19, no. 4.) The format is a fully searchable PDF files, which makes life and research much easier. Thanks to Randy Clark, Ray Williams and Gary Trudgen for their vision and extremely hard work, which now lets us offer these wonderful research tools to you for $50 plus $4.00 p&h for members or $75 plus $4.00 p&h for non-members. To order, please contact either (a) Wayne Shelby at dughistory@juno.com or (b) Charlie Rohrer at RohrerC@cadmus.com or at P.O. Box 25 Mountville, PA 17554. Please send your check made out to C4 to Charlie Rohrer at the above address.

I need help in a project that will turn into a *C4 Newsletter* article on estimating the surviving population of State Coinages. I am developing a model but need to better understand how many NJ coppers collectors hold. Only aggregated data will be used. I am looking for

information on total number of NJ coppers, number recovered (dug), number purchased, and number sold in last 12 months or longer periods if available. I am looking for data from any size collections or accumulations.

**J. Howes;** 19967 East Doyle; Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236; 313 319-1743

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**Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues**

Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are $10 for the first and $8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

dughistory@juno.com 609-261-6662 (Home)

*****

The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :
http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob ..
http://www.forgerynetwork.com/asset.aspx?id=QEjfzd5ZR~x~8=

*****

I'm currently undertaking a comprehensive study of the Castorland jeton. I'm approaching the study from both sides of the Atlantic, relying heavily on French sources, and my study entails operational details from the manufacture of flans to the mechanical workings of the screw press; the history of jetons as they evolved from arithmetical counters to monarchial presentation pieces; events leading up to the establishment of the New York Company; the biography of Benjamin Duvivier; etc. culminating in detailed descriptions of variants struck from at least one original die. As you can see it's a big work, but I've been at it quite a few years and am wonderfully engaged in the project. Here is a "finding list" of details I'm looking for, as well as photos if possible:

1. If the specimen is in a slab, all the label information.
2. Identify the metal, gold, silver, copper, bronze. If silver, indicate thin or thick planchet.
3. If edge-stamped, identify the symbol and the lettering and location of the stamping (such as 6 o'clock relative the obverse.)
4. Die alignment: coin turn/medal turn.
5. Describe state of any reverse die failure, perceptible bulge, advanced crack, etc.
6. Describe reverse caustic incursion, sometimes identified as rust, at the right handle of the vessel.
7. Describe any other identifying factors such a rim bumps, scratches, spots, unfilled letters of legends, etc. that would help identify the piece if it were re-encapsulated at some future time.
8. Indicate the provenance, if known. If you currently own the specimen feel free to identify it ex your name for the benefit of future owners.

Please contact Chester L. Sullivan at csull@ku.edu.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

*Rates are shown below.*

Grayscale ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows (color ads are 50% more in each category):

| | 1 issue | 2 issues | 3 issues | 4 issues | Copy Size |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 page | $300 | $450 | $600 | $750 | 6" x 9" |
| 1/2 page | $175 | $250 | $325 | $400 | 6" x 4.5" |

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire – generally $200 additional.) Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.

WANTED: I need five AJN's (Volume 24, Numbers 3 and 4; Volume 27, Numbers 1, 3, and 4). These are whole numbers 127, 128, 137, 138, and 140. All are scarce, and I am willing to pay fairly for any of them in decent condition. Contact me at sfmartin5@comcast.net. Thanks, Syd Martin

Todd Gredesky PO Box 102 Woodbury, NJ 08096
856-803-6102(cell) email: njtodd7@hotmail.com

| | |
|---|---|
| VT RR6 holed in center | $100 |
| VT RR8 | $100 |
| Blacksmith Token Wood 18 ex. Kevin Vinton | $40 |
| 1817 Brass 2 Reale filler | $20 |

Please add $4 postage.
Wanted Canadian Blacksmith tokens.

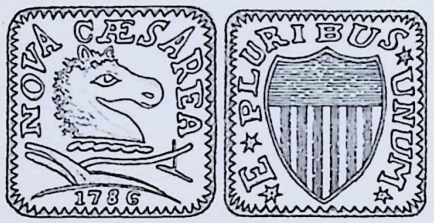
Looking for the following:

1 1788 Maris 51G New Jersey Copper, grading VG10 or Fine with a smooth planchet in a PCGS holder.

2 1785 Vermonts, Vermontis, or Vermontensium Copper (with a smooth planchet) in PCGS or NGC xf40 (one of any one of the noted varieties).

3 1787 Massachusetts Cent (with a smooth planchet) grading AU in a PCGS or NGC holder.

Nick D'Amico
30 Ovington Drive
Hamilton, NJ 08620
(201)923-4341

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**Bent, Holed, & Folded: Coin Talismans for Protection against Misfortune & Witchcraft in Colonial Jamestown.** (150+ pages; over 150 references) **$19.95**
I present new information about how the colonists at Jamestown mutilated coins to fashion magical talismans. I review post-medieval English traditions about Divine Providence, Dead Saints, and Witchcraft and show how these ideas were brought to the New World. Talismans from Maryland and Massachusetts are also discussed. I have spent several years examining the coins excavated at Jamestown, most of them not yet available for public viewing. This book is fascinating and unlike anything you have read before. My book is available from major Internet sellers. Order it from me, and I will sign it and include a four-page guide to collecting coins from Jamestown. Thanks, Michael Shutty Jr. at mykshutty@yahoo.com.

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Clement V. Schettino; PO Box 1093; Saugus, MA 01906
copperclem@comcast.net; copperclem.com

Some of the Earliest American Coppers. Contemporary Counterfeit British & Irish Halfpence and Farthings. My personal collections built over the past decade are now for sale. We now have a webpage up and running with most all coins imaged and priced.

More will go up from time to time. I also have some Colonials and Spanish American Colonials-Cobs up. There are currently about 12 categories populated with coins for sale, they are; British George II, British George III, Irish George II, Irish George III, Counterstamps, Cast Ctfts, Mules, Errors, Regales Colonials and Cobs. In the near future I will be adding some interesting Misc pieces.

I am still selling CD's of my collections, the details are on the webpages.

Postage is always free for C4 and EAC members. Please use the savings towards next year's dues ;-).

Please visit the webpages at copperclem.com and feel free to email with any questions.

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